

Backbench revolt alarms Major EC gives Danes time to rethink on Maastricht

By George Brock in Oslo and Robin Oakley in London

THE European Community foreign ministers agreed yesterday to press ahead with the ratification of the Maastricht treaty "on the basis of the existing text" and to allow Denmark's participation within the Community to continue.

In London the cabinet endorsed John Major's determination to push ahead with ratification of the treaty, but there was growing ministerial alarm about the groundswell of support for a complete renegotiation of the deal.

About 70 Conservative MPs, including a number of new members, backed a coded early day motion calling for a "fresh start" in European negotiations. The prime minister was last night trying to reassure Euro-sceptics that Britain was not adopting too rigid an approach.

In spite of clear differences

between the EC foreign ministers, they agreed at the emergency meeting to give Denmark time to find solutions to the problems posed by its membership of the EC outside the Maastricht treaty, while the other 11 states work out how to implement its provisions.

Poul Schlüter, the Danish prime minister, said last night that he had not ruled out calling a second referendum on his country's relationship with the rest of the Community, if a different basis for such ties could be worked out. "I wouldn't rule out a new referendum, but it would have to be on a different basis," he told Danish television. "It might be in half a year, it might be later."

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, made strenuous efforts to play down the obstacles facing the EC. As he arrived at the Oslo meeting he said that the Community's history had been marked by hiccups. He said that Denmark remained a full member of the EC for the time being and it would take time to solve the predicament. He suggested that Community leaders might not even spend much time discussing Denmark at the Lisbon summit at the end of this month.

He acknowledged, however, that he had been unable to tell his colleagues when ratification of the treaty, suspended on Wednesday, would be resumed in the Commons. The Danish referendum result, he said, had "undoubtedly affected opinion in Britain among people who had been willing to give Maastricht the benefit of the doubt".

Ministers are hoping to continue the parliamentary progress of the Maastricht bill later this month, after the Irish referendum on June 18. There is growing concern, however, that the government might find itself unable to get the bill through, with the number of rebels in both major parties sharply on the increase.

There is some alarm in the Tory party that the Foreign Office was caught napping by the Danish referendum result and that Mr Major was not made aware swiftly enough of the currents running on the Conservative back benches. One junior minister conceded yesterday that it would be a bad mistake for the government to assume that what

was happening was a mere paper revolt.

With Britain due to take over the EC presidency on July 1, the prime minister is anxious to preserve his position as the honest broker. Downing Street said that he wanted to operate "from the middle of the ring", and senior ministers agree that Britain should not be seen to undermine the deal arrived at last December. Mr Major also made it clear that any renegotiation might jeopardise the concessions that Britain achieved at Maastricht, notably the opt-out clause on a single European currency.

Mr Hurd's eagerness to exert a calming influence had been provoked by signals from Portugal, France, Germany and other pro-federal governments that the rest of the Community should start to nudge Denmark out of mainstream EC business. Mr Hurd said that he had been keen to remove from the final communiqué any resentment against Denmark.

Britain's more conciliatory line is supported by Holland. A Dutch diplomat criticised the joint statement issued immediately after the Danish result by France and Germany. "That statement made us a bit uneasy. In effect it said: the train is steaming on. Somebody fell off. Too bad: we go on." The same official pointed out that British ministers will play a pivotal role in the coming months because of the close relations between Britain and Denmark and because Britain will take over the presidency of the EC.

The ministers appear to have reached a provisional consensus that more pressure should not be heaped on Copenhagen while there is any prospect of a second referendum. "The ball is on the Danish side of the court," Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, said.

Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, employed only a faint tone of menace. "It is possible that a partner who says 'No' at first may say 'Yes' the second time around, after reflection," he said. However, the meeting dismissed M. Dumas's idea that an emergency EC summit would be held this weekend.

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Serbia's last ally hints it may change sides

By Our Foreign Staff

THE president of Montenegro, Momir Bulatovic, suggested yesterday that he may rethink the republic's alliance with Serbia, its partner in the ramp state of Yugoslavia.

Montenegro's defection would drastically weaken any Serbian claim that Yugoslavia continued to exist. "I leave open the possibility that we have made mistakes," Mr Bulatovic said of Montenegro's decision to remain locked into Yugoslavia with Serbia. "Change is possible. We still have relations with the Serbian authorities, but there is also a great attempt to

... see the mistakes made," he said. "The course is going to be corrected generally."

His comments were the first public indications of strains in the Yugoslav federation of Serbia and Montenegro since the United Nations imposed sanctions on Yugoslavia in the areas of trade, oil, commerce, sport and transport. New Yugoslavia was formally proclaimed on April 27 after the defections of Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Macedonia from the old federation.

Dirtiest war, page 10

Mortgage trap brings a little home comfort

By Rachel Kelly
PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE 1.5 million homeowners trapped with debts larger than the value of their homes could prove the salvation of the housing market. In an ironic twist, their very misfortune could provide the right economic conditions for a mini-boom. Their inability to sell will restrict the supply of houses up for sale, so boosting prices.

The surprising conclusion will be contained in a report, *The Debt Trap*, to be published next week by John Wriglesworth, building society analyst at the securities house UBS Phillips & Drew, regarded by many as the leading guru of the housing market.

Increased prices will increase confidence in homes as an investment and stimulate greater demand, he argues. "What the market needs is not more sellers, but more new buyers. Only the sellers are affected by the debt trap. Buyers are not," Dr Wriglesworth said. He calculates that there are 600,000 would-be first-time buyers who have delayed entering the market through lack of confidence, but lower interest rates, comparatively low prices and a real increase in earnings now makes buying more attractive to them.

Once the supply of 200,000 unsold empty houses has dried up, prices should start picking up as first-time buyers find fewer houses on the market. Ironically, many of those in the

debt trap are first-time buyers who bought between 1989 and 1991, and are living in properties that would appeal to a new generation of first-time buyers.

"Prices will stabilise, and then start picking up as transaction levels improve," Dr Wriglesworth said. Price increases in turn will stimulate demand, as first-time buyer confidence returns. Though people in the debt trap in the short term will suffer, in the long run, everybody wins.

"Once prices pick up, they will then be able to escape from the trap because their homes are once again worth more than the value of their mortgages," Dr Wriglesworth said.

The first stages of this scenario have already started. House prices increased last month by 0.4 per cent, the Halifax said on Wednesday. Earlier in the week, the Nationwide recorded a 0.6 per cent rise in May for the second month running, and estate agents have reported a month of busy trading in May, with most interest coming from first-time buyers.

Harry Hill, from the Hambro Countrywide chain of estate agents, said: "May has been the best month of the year, particularly in the North-west and the Midlands, with interest particularly from first-time buyers." Dr Wriglesworth predicts a recovery in 1993, with prices up 6 per cent by the end of the year. "By then the excess supply of repossessed houses and empty homes on the market will have been mopped up."



Final vindication: Judith Ward leaving the Court of Appeal yesterday after her convictions for an IRA coach bombing and other attacks were quashed

Judith Ward case prompts call to tighten evidence rules

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

PRESSURE for the rules governing non-disclosure of material to be put on a statutory basis mounted last night after the Court of Appeal quashed Judith Ward's conviction for the M62 IRA coach bombing and other attacks.

Sir Nicholas Lyell, QC, the attorney-general, has called for guidelines on the disclosure of evidence to be given statutory force so they are made subject to parliamentary scrutiny. Last night, Gareth Williams, QC, the Bar chairman, supported Sir Nicholas and urged the introduction of "mechanical checks" such as log books at police stations to cut the opportunity for non-disclosure.

The Royal Commission for Criminal Justice, set up after the freeing of the Birmingham Six, is examining arrangements for disclosing material to the defence as well as the difficulties facing the defence in access to forensic scientists. It is certain to take seriously demands from the attorney-general for tighter rules in its report due by early next year.

Miss Ward, 43, walked from the court in London after hearing the three judges deliver an indictment of the system which put her in jail for 18 years for the attack which killed 12 people in 1974. Accompanied by Anne Maguire, one of the Maguire Seven, she said: "It's great. Thanks."

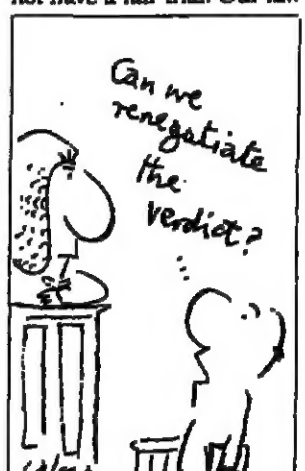
For the first time in the series of miscarriages of justice linked to IRA violence, the Court of Appeal yesterday unequivocally pointed the finger at who was to blame for bending the rules and not disclosing material to Miss Ward's defence team.

Lord Justice Giddewell, sitting with Lord Justice Nolan and Mr Justice Steyn, criticised West Yorkshire police, staff at the Director of Public Prosecutions' office and counsel instructing them, and the psychiatrists who prepared reports on Miss Ward for not disclosing material.

They said three government scientists "took the law into their own hands" and acted in concert to conceal from the prosecution, defence and court matters which

could have changed the course of the trial. It had been a lamentable catalogue of omissions and obstruction by Douglas Higgs, Walter Elliott (now dead) and George Berryman, all employed by the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment at Woolwich, southeast London.

The judges added: "On the scientific case deployed against her, Miss Ward did not have a fair trial. Our law



does not tolerate a conviction to be secured by ambush."

The judges criticised Brian Walsh, QC, a crown court recorder, who was the junior counsel in the prosecution team. He had advised against disclosing an interview in which Miss Ward denied IRA activities and had told the defence that it contained only material of a "peripheral" nature. The judges said Mr Walsh had been wrong and had drafted a letter that misrepresented the position. Last night Mr Walsh said he regretted that Miss Ward had been wrongly convicted but refused to comment further until he had read the judgment.

Other material shedding light on Miss Ward's veracity was not disclosed to the defence by Michael Bibby, a member of the DPP's central London staff at the time and now an official with the Crown Prosecution Service. Last night the CPS would make no comment on Mr Bibby's position.

Guilty parties, page 5

Brazil leads on greenhouse treaty

From Michael McCarthy in Rio de Janeiro

PRESIDENT Collor de Mello of Brazil, the host of the Earth summit, yesterday became the first world leader to sign the United Nations convention on global warming.

His signature, greeted with applause by hundreds of diplomats and heads of UN agencies, is expected to be followed in the next week by those of up to 150 other world leaders, including President Bush and John Major.

The treaty comes into force four years after the international community woke up to the greenhouse effect and is likely to be the summit's most substantial achievement. It commits all countries to drawing up policies to counter climate change, and encourages industrialised countries to stabilise by the year 2000 their emissions of gases thought to be causing the greenhouse effect, such as carbon dioxide.

"This is a most happy event in international relations," President Collor said. "It is a decisive step we must take to build a totally new and better international order."

However, Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, expressed unhappiness that the treaty had been diluted by the United States as the price of President Bush's attendance at Rio. "The treaty falls short of the initial hopes of many negotiators," he said. Environmentalists also welcomed the treaty while insisting it was still too weak. "This agreement means that governments have taken only the

first step towards getting to grips with the awesome problem," said Fiona Weir of Friends of the Earth. "The challenge now is for governments to set binding national targets to cut carbon dioxide emissions."

Britain announced at the summit that the government hoped the statement of principles on forestry which the conference is negotiating would also lead to a legally binding world forestry treaty.

David Maclean, the environment minister, accepted that such a treaty would not only bind countries such as Brazil and Malaysia in the management of their tropical rainforests, but would equally bind Britain in the management of its forests.

Graham Wynne, the director of conservation of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, who is attached to the British delegation, said: "We would hope to see strong commitments affecting British forestry policy which on occasions has been disastrous."

Earlier, the stage was set for a clash next week between Baroness Chalker, the overseas development minister, and the Vatican when Archbishop Renato Martino, the papal nuncio, denounced family planning methods. Lady Chalker, who has made the population issue something of a personal crusade, is expected to raise it personally with the nuncio.

Rainforest hero, page 13
Letters, page 15

Names face Lloyd's levy

THE 22,500 members of Lloyd's are being required to contribute an average of £20,000 each next month to double the size of the central fund that acts as the ultimate security behind Lloyd's policies. The move is being made as Lloyd's financial security is being questioned for the first time in its 304-year history. The insurers are expected to announce a £2 billion loss for 1989... Page 19
Leading article, page 15

Kidnap talks

An 18-year-old A-level student interrupted her revision to spend four days negotiating with men who held her father captive in Nigeria. Claire Hillman, who took nine telephone calls from the kidnappers at her home in Wigan, said: "I felt nervous, but at no time were they rude or threatening".... Page 3

Cook's tour

Thomas Cook, the 150-year-old travel firm that pioneered the package holiday, is to be sold to the German LTV group for £200 million... Page 19
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Standing room

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END TIMES

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New car sales show a small increase

By KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

CAR sales increased slightly last month, mainly due to buying in the North. Business in the South remains slow.

Registrations of new cars were up 1.4 per cent to 121,862, compared with 120,162 in the same month of last year. However, May 1991 was the worst May for sales since 1975. Last month's figures follow a year-on-year rise of 9.1 per cent in April, the first increase after 29 months of losses.

This year's sales comparisons are, however, made against those of last year, the worst year for registrations since 1982. Sales for the first five months of this year are 5.3 per cent lower.

The industry will need an outstanding sales month in August, of about 400,000, if sales for the year are to match even the 1.59 million recorded last year.

Sales in the South were depressed severely in the first four months of the year, according to the Retail Motor Industry Federation which represents 12,000 car dealers. Sales in the North were down 0.5 per cent. The biggest increase was in Central Scotland, where sales rose by 14.6 per cent, while overall sales in Scotland fell by 3.2 per cent.

Ford's market share this May dropped from 25.66 per cent last year to 19.62 per cent compared with Vauxhall's 17.27. The strongest performance came from Peugeot Talbot, which increased sales from 8,524 in May last year to 10,075, up 18.2 per cent, for a market share of 8.27 per cent.

Rover also recovered from its bad start to the year, reviving to an 11.48 per cent share.

Last month's top ten cars were: 1, Ford Escort (8,450); 2, Rover 200 (8,230); 3, Vauxhall Astra (7,176); 4, Vauxhall Cavalier (7,080); 5, Ford Fiesta (6,635); 6, Ford Sierra (5,277); 7, Rover Metro (5,223); 8, Vauxhall Nova (4,454); 9, Peugeot 405 (4,130); 10, Volkswagen Golf (2,634).

Foreign cars dominate the best buy section of the latest Which? Guide to New and Used Cars. The Peugeot 205 is best car in the supermini range for the seventh year. The Toyota Corolla and the Mazda 323 are top small family cars. The best large family car is the Nissan Primera, built at Washington, Tyne and Wear.

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Inside view: Lucy Willis with the painting of inmates of Shepton Mallet prison, in Somerset, that has won her the BP Portrait of the Year award, worth £10,000. Miss Willis, who was artist in residence

at the jail when she painted *Her Majesty's Pleasure*, was presented with her prize yesterday by Sir Michael Checkland, BBC director-general. Miss Willis, 37, of Burrowbridge, Somerset, also received

a commission from the National Portrait Gallery for a study of a well-known person for its contemporary collection. The £4,000 second prize was won by Alec Chanda, a picture framer, for *Minnie with*

Max, and the £2,000 third prize went to Ishbel Myerscough for *Richard (Harry Man)*. An exhibition of shortlisted works, and 48 others from the 631 entries, is at the gallery until September 6.

Water companies cut off 22,000 for non-payment

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

AN ALARMING number of vulnerable people on low incomes have been left without water after the recently privatised industry imposed big price increases.

A damning indictment of the industry's business practices by the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux yesterday coincided with the disclosure that 22,000 homes have had their supply cut off for non-payment of bills in the past financial year. The figure, revealed by the industry's watchdog Ofwat, is three times higher than the year before.

In a submission to Ofwat, the advice bureaux say that rising charges have led to the emergence of a new class of debt and calls for tougher safeguards against the companies. The report comes amid record profits by the companies. Thames Water this week announced a profit of £236 million and a 10 per cent dividend rise to 19.2p per share to its shareholders.

Ann Abraham, chief execu-

tive of the advice bureaux, said yesterday: "Water is a vital service and immediate action must be taken to ensure that it remains available and affordable to vulnerable members of the community, in particular those on low incomes and elderly and disabled people."

With water rates now more expensive than the community charge for some households, the advice bureaux say that "water debt" had become a significantly bigger financial difficulty for people who sought their advice than tax and telephone debt and social fund payments.

Around the country, the organisation's advisers are dealing with 55,000 water debt appeals for help from the public each year.

Criticism also came yesterday from the National Consumer Council, which described the disconnection figures as "horrifying" and said: "As water charges are bound to rise in future, the problem will only get worse."

Ian Byatt, director general of water services, said: "These

are very worrying figures. We have now issued guidelines to make sure companies make every effort to minimise the number of customers served with summonses and then disconnected."

"I will not permit companies to raise their charges to cover their bad debts. This would not be fair on those who have paid. As the companies are monopoly suppliers of an essential service, they must make every effort to help customers who may have difficulty in paying to budget."

The advice bureaux want the immediate introduction of an accessible and instalment payment method for water charges at no extra cost to the customer; a ceiling on the cost of water for metered customers; a standardised timetable of arrears procedures to allow customers time to negotiate and make arrangements to pay; the introduction of a less aggressive policy on court summonses and disconnection; the amendment of the companies' licence from Ofwat to ensure disconnection only oc-

curs after a court has decided there has been wilful refusal or culpable neglect by the customer to pay; and acceptance by the director general of a duty to investigate companies who breach the guidelines.

The advice bureaux say that there is no benefit rebate to help poor people pay for water while increases to income support have failed to reflect the steep rise in domestic water bills. Their report adds: "Our evidence shows there is a pressing need for the director general to look for further safeguards against disconnection for certain groups of customers."

Self-disconnections were expected to become more widespread, with resulting health hazards.

Ann Taylor, Labour shadow minister for environmental protection, said the disconnection figures showed some companies were pursuing a "vindictive and draconian" policy. She added: "It further undermines confidence in the ability of the water companies to treat their industry as a vital public service."

Watchdog under pressure

IAN BYATT, the director general of Ofwat, the water industry's watchdog, publishes his third annual report next Tuesday amid public concern over water shortages, disconnections and rising charges (Michael Horsnell writes).

A 20 per cent increase in charges in real terms since privatisation in 1989 and the disclosure that the men who run Britain's water companies will enjoy share perks worth nearly £20 million next January have added to the problem.

As Thames Water announced record profits of £236 million, up 11 per cent, Mr Byatt's organisation remained silent about what it is doing to ensure a fair deal for the consumer, although it is carrying out a survey into hardship and encouraging a cut-back in the rate of disconnections. Complaints about the industry, mainly about pricing, are believed to have doubled in a year to 10,000.

Mr Byatt, aged 60, a former Treasury economic adviser who was married to the

writer A.S. Byatt and who enjoys painting when he can escape the pressure of water, has had to try to keep down charges that were already set to increase well ahead of inflation to fund the industry's £30 billion capital investment programme. His difficulties have been worsened by demands from Europe for environmental improvement, and from the industry's other regulator, the National Rivers Authority. Mr Byatt, who is



Byatt: successfully beating anonymity

based in Birmingham with a staff of 134, has had to balance his obligations to consumers against demands by the water companies for sufficient funds to provide water services and as well as give a proper rate of return to its investors. Although only 16 per cent of consumers recently questioned were aware of Ofwat's existence Mr Byatt has managed to overcome the anonymity which accompanied him into the role three years ago.

A product of Oxford and Harvard, he lectured in economics before joining the civil service in 1967 where he specialised in the regulation of public utilities. He joined the education department as senior economic adviser, transferred to the ministry of housing and became deputy chief economic adviser at the Treasury in 1972.

Ofwat cut the water bill to the public last year by £40 million and is undertaking a comprehensive price review for 1994, the first year allowed under the Water Act.

Carey puts fear of God into the City

By RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, gave top financiers another lecture in Christian ethics yesterday, continuing his campaign to bring a renewed morality to City life. In the historic Wren church of St Lawrence Jewry, in the heart of the City, Dr Carey spelled out his belief that self-interest could not be the only motivating force in human behaviour.

Delivering the annual Golden Lecture, sponsored by the Haberdashers' Company, Dr Carey said: "We need some frame of reference other than self-interest to make sense of self-giving." One finan-

cier said afterwards that some had attended the talk expecting threats of eternal damnation for businessmen who paid themselves too much. Last month, at a service at Derby cathedral to mark the advent of the single European market, Dr Carey condemned big pay increases during a recession.

But the Archbishop was in forgiving mood yesterday. He told his audience, nearly all men, that the fear of hell was once believed to be a powerful incentive towards honesty and truth, but the doctrine of everlasting punishment of the wicked had been in serious decline for more than a century.

Contemporary Christians preferred to focus on the God of forgiveness and love,

rather than the God of vengeance and judgment. Dr Carey said he believed this did greater justice to the teaching of Jesus Christ, but the decline of belief in everlasting punishment had coincided with attempts to separate religion and morality. Dr Carey said society could not afford to neglect the link between God, goodness and justice.

Ruth Fry, an analyst at the Bank of England and one of the few women in church, said the lecture was thought-provoking. "He definitely has something to say to the City. I wish he would do it more often." Stephen Tanner, who works for a merchant bank, said that it was possible to do good without damaging a company's bottom line.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cucumber farmers seek compensation

Irish cucumber producers, whose £1-million-a-year industry faces collapse after the Dublin government last week warned the public to avoid the fruit because of an outbreak of food poisoning, met the Irish agriculture minister yesterday to discuss compensation.

The outbreak struck down 29 people in separate parts of the country and three children were taken to hospital. Representatives of the Irish Farmers' Association met Liam Hyland in Dublin to discuss what could be done to help the 100 cucumber producers in the republic. They face financial ruin if the reason for the food poisoning outbreak is not discovered soon. The Irish health department has discounted an earlier hypothesis that the cause was a genetic abnormality among the cucumbers eaten. It is concentrating on testing for chemical causes. There have also been informal discussions with producers in Holland, which is a main exporter of cucumbers to the republic.

Meanwhile, cucumbers have been withdrawn from many supermarkets and stores. Irish producers, concentrated mostly in the Dublin, Meath, Louth and Cork areas, have been left with thousands of boxes of unwanted cucumbers. A health warning advising people against eating cucumbers has also been issued in Northern Ireland.

Leading article, page 15

Monkey rustling gang strikes at third zoo

The theft of ten squirrel monkeys from a Leicestershire zoo yesterday is believed to be the work of professional monkey rustlers who have now struck three times in the past three weeks. Managers at Twycross Zoo have offered a £1,000 reward to help them to find the monkeys which they believe are in the hands of raiders who have recently broken into zoos in Winchester, and Combe Martin, Devon. The squirrel monkeys taken yesterday are valued at £5,000 but could fetch substantially more if sold as exotic pets.

Molly Badham, Twycross Zoo's director, said that the rustlers had taken mothers and their babies that were likely to suffer away from the care of zoo staff. "The poor things are probably stuffed in some box somewhere. Many of the monkeys were born and bred at Twycross and will not cope outside the zoo environment. The raiders knew what they were after. They went straight to the monkey house, broke in, and must have needed the animals to take them away. We think it is part of a series of raids across the country and is linked with thefts at Marwell and Combe Martin."

Queen reopens square

The Queen officially opened Leicester Square yesterday after a three-year, £4 million improvement project by Westminster city council. The famous London square has alternated between extremes of glamour and squalor in the last 300 years and in recent years the squalid side has been most in evidence (John Young writes). The council described the project as a landmark in its drive to restore civic pride to the capital. David Weeks, the council's leader, said: "I am delighted that the Queen has consented to reopen the square, as this underlines the importance of the project." The square takes its name from the Earl of Leicester who acquired the property in the early 17th century. Until then it had been open fields, under the protection of the Abbot of Westminster and the medieval Convent of St Peter's.

Service station concern

Motorway service areas should not be allowed to expand to include retail and leisure developments, the Countryside Commission says. Replying to the government's proposals to deregulate service areas, the commission says that the service stations should provide fuel, food, free short term parking, lavatories, information, telephones and picnic areas, and no more. A similar view has been expressed by the Council for the Protection of Rural England. The commission welcomes the government's intention to improve the quality of service areas but it opposes the suggestion that they should be built at more frequent intervals. The commission says that if a service area is justified within a national park or area of outstanding natural beauty, it should provide only essential needs: fuel, telephones and lavatories.

Gift from young guns



Andrew Barber, above, one of a team of apprentices at Rolle Royce, which yesterday gave to Whitefriars museum in Coventry a scale model of an Elizabethan cannon used in the Civil War. The model of the culverin, made by the engineering apprentices in their training workshop at Coventry Technical College and which took nine weeks and 350 man-hours to complete, will be added to the Royal Armouries travelling exhibition of Civil War arms and armour, sponsored by *The Times*, which opens at Whitefriars tomorrow. Others involved in the project were Dean Blazey, Grant Morrell and Simon Baulis. The exhibition, which includes the personal armour of King Charles I, broke all records at its previous venue, the Town Docks Museum in Hull, where it was seen by 54,000 people.

Bird dealer fined

A part-time bird dealer was fined £2,000 and given a six month jail sentence suspended for two years yesterday for his part in sending 11 rare and valuable parrots by airmail post from Australia to England packed head to tail in cardboard tubes 18in long and 3in wide. Magistrates at Cannock, Staffordshire, were told that the birds mutilated each other before they died during the six day journey. The parcel had been labelled as containing a tent. At an earlier hearing Christopher Turner, 42, a foundry worker from Norton Canes, Staffordshire, had admitted evading EC controls on the import and export of parrots. Martin Barber, from Cannock, his accomplice in the plan to smuggle the parrots, which are listed as endangered, has been jailed for six months in Australia.

Advert rules tightened

Political claims in advertisements would have to be substantiated under proposals from the Advertising Standards Authority. The proposals, out for consultation, would mean that a charity appealing for funds to stop the destruction of the rainforests by claiming that such action was responsible for the greenhouse effect would have to deliver scientific proof to the watchdog. Unions would have to substantiate claims in advertisements critical of government policies. The British Code of Advertising Practice at present prevents the authority from investigating complaints about misleading claims in advertisements deemed "political". The authority hopes to make the change next month. Political party advertisements and those putting a case during an election will remain exempt.

Daughter negotiate for kidnappers



Aids study 25m cases

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Daughter helps to negotiate ransom for kidnapped father

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE teenage daughter of a British businessman kidnapped in Nigeria told yesterday how she took time off from revising for her A levels to negotiate a ransom with her father's captors.

Claire Hillman, 18, said: "I felt nervous, but at no time were they rude or threatening. They just asked us to get the money together." Her father, John Hillman, 49, was seized on Friday last week in the southern Nigerian town of Onitsha as he carried out a deal for an associate. He was eventually freed unharmed on Tuesday.

Police in Mr Hillman's home town of Wigan, Greater Manchester, disclosed yesterday that his captors had originally demanded £290,000, which was later revised to £190,000. Most was to come from Mr Hillman's associate, identified yesterday only as Darrel from the West Midlands, but the kidnappers demanded £20,000 from the family.

Chief Superintendent Norman Collinson, of Greater Manchester police, praised Miss Hillman's calmness in handling the nine telephone calls from the kidnappers over the four days that her father was held. "It's true to a great extent that the manner in which Claire conducted herself on the telephone has brought this matter to a successful conclusion," he said.

Miss Hillman said: "They let me speak to my father in the calls and he sounded fine. He said he was all right, they were feeding him and he was not being ill-treated."

Miss Hillman's mother, Eileen Hillman, 44, said: "She was trying to say that I was not there and she was trying to raise the money to extend the negotiations and

buy time. The police got us through those four days. I don't know how but they did. We just tried to carry on as normally as possible, doing the cleaning and Hoovering. It was a question of trying to keep a clear head."

Police said later that Mr Hillman had been beaten with the flat of a machete blade by one of his three captors. He was not seriously hurt. The two others had a shotgun and a flick knife.

Mr Hillman had taken a few days off from his job as production manager with a Skelmersdale food company to travel to Nigeria as a favour to his friend, who had told him that he was too busy to go himself.

He was expecting to collect a banker's draft but instead was told that there were snags. He was flown up country from the capital, Lagos, and taken to a block of flats in Onitsha. "There the atmosphere changed dramatically," Mr Collinson said. "The calls to his family never actually mentioned a death threat, but it was obvious from their nature his life was in danger. We had to be very discreet in what we did. Any mistake we made could have led to him being murdered."

The Hillmans contacted police on Sunday after receiving the first calls. Officers from Greater Manchester, the West Midlands and Interpol and the Nigerian police pooled information from all sides of the investigation. Mr Collinson said that Darrel had also received a number of calls from Nigeria and a fax message.

He would not say how Mr Hillman had been traced to the flats. On Tuesday, Nigerian police stormed the building and released him. They are interrogating five men, all Nigerians.

Mr Collinson said that he was asking Miss Hillman's examining board whether anything could be done to help her to make up for her missed revision when she takes A levels in psychology, sociology and geography.

dered. We were on a knife edge as to the way we had to conduct the enquiry." Nigerian police were investigating what had caused the transaction to go wrong.

Mr Collinson said he had spoken to Mr Hillman yesterday and he appeared to be fit and well. He is expected to fly home today after helping Nigerian police investigating the case.

Mr Hillman also spoke to her husband. She said: "He said he knew I was there all the time, even though Claire was telling them I had gone to raise the money. He was trying to tell them Claire was only a young girl and he couldn't pressure her. But he realised it was just a ploy to keep the negotiations going."

Asked to sum up her husband's character, Mrs Hillman laughed and described him as "stumpy". But she said: "He would bear up to something like this very well. He is very intelligent and strong-willed."

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Freedom celebration: Claire and Eileen Hillman

Computer blamed in submarine sinking

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A TRAINEE commander whose nuclear-powered submarine sank a fishing trawler said yesterday that he had placed his trust in the vessel's computer system.

Lieutenant Commander Peter McDonnell said that the computer on board Trenchant indicated that they were at least three miles and 40 minutes away from a collision with the trawler Antares. The submarine snagged the nets of the fishing vessel, which was dragged to the bottom of the Firth of Clyde, drowning the four-man crew, in November 1990.

Le Cdr McDonnell, 33, from Glossop, Derbyshire, told a court martial in Devonport that his generation of submariners preferred to rely on the computer. Earlier, a senior submarine captain told the hearing that the manual plotting system was more trustworthy in busy waters.

Le Cdr McDonnell, who denies six charges of negligence, said he had not known that Trenchant had passed close to the Antares and another boat five minutes before he ordered the submarine to turn around and head back towards them.

He told the hearing that he did not think he was qualified to be in charge of Trenchant unsupervised. He denied that he was not paying attention to his work or that he had been in deep conversation with a fellow trainee.

He said that when he unwittingly turned Trenchant on to a collision course with the Antares, he knew the trawler was there but the submarine's computer system told him it was 6,300 yards away. He did not remember checking the traditional manual plot.

The hearing continues. Department of Trade officials yesterday interviewed the captain of a container ship that collided with the Royal Navy submarine Opportunity near the Isle of Wight. The submarine was on the surface at the time.

Stratford governors drop charges

The governors of Stratford School, east London, have agreed to drop disciplinary charges against Anne Snelling, the head teacher, and to pay her costs at the end of the long-running legal battle over the management of the opt-out school (Matthew d'Ancona writes).

The High Court yesterday approved the settlement of the dispute, which was effectively resolved last week when Ghulam Shaida, chairman of the governors, admitted that he had fabricated assault charges against Mrs Snelling.

The governors agreed not to interfere in the management of the school. The head teacher withdrew an injunction barring them from the school during lesson time.

£8m toy fraud

Two senior executives who ran one of Britain's largest independent manufacturing companies producing toys and games were jailed at Oxford Crown Court yesterday for an £8million fraud. Managing Director Brian George of Henley, was jailed for 4½ years and Roger Richardson, 36, former head of finance, was jailed for three years. They admitted trading fraudulently for three years while running Action Games and Toys based in Abingdon and Henley in Oxfordshire.

Britain behind

Britain is trailing America, Japan and Germany in the training of graduate engineers, harming the prospects for economic recovery, a report for the Engineering Council says. The number of British graduates rose between 1983 and 1988 but the other three countries were far ahead.

Families' plea

Lawyers for the families of eight Ayrshire children taken into care two years ago in a sex abuse investigation are seeking a government enquiry, saying that new evidence has emerged, and a Court of Session study of the case.

Aids study predicts 25m cases by 2000

By ALISON ROBERTS

A NEW study of the world Aids epidemic may make Britons take it more seriously, experts said yesterday.

The study predicts that more than 25 million people will have Aids by 2000 and that up to 120 million will be HIV positive. The figures are much higher than those given by the World Health Organisation which has estimated that there will be ten million Aids cases and 30-40 million people infected by the same date.

The Harvard University report, using research from 30 epidemiologists around the world, focuses on the potential explosion of the epidemic in Asia. It says that within eight years 42 per cent of all

Aids infections will be in Asia, and draws attention to the growing infected population in Thailand, India and Burma where one million people are believed to be HIV positive. A new global strategy is urgently needed to stop the epidemic, it says.

Julian Meldrum, research and information officer for the National Aids Trust, said that most people in Britain were still not taking the epidemic seriously and that the report might counteract some of the "recent dotty theorising". He said: "I do not think that many people have even begun to grasp what the implications of the disease are for the world."

Thomas Netter, an editor

of the study, said: "When we see this accelerating increase and a response lacking, we think there is potential for a lot of danger. Health systems become wrecked, land becomes depopulated, the economically productive members of society die off."

The study, which will be published later this year, identifies 57 countries which have largely escaped the epidemic so far, but where the risk of Aids spread is high, including Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia and Iraq. It says that 2.6 million people already have Aids and at least 13 million are HIV positive; the WHO puts Aids sufferers at 1.5 million with up to 11 million infected.

Scientists link nerve disorder to gene flaw

By NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH scientists have found a genetic link between Parkinson's disease, a debilitating nerve disorder that tends to manifest itself in later life, and chemicals in the environment.

The find, by researchers with the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and scientists in Birmingham and London, indicates that some people are much more at risk of developing Parkinson's because of genetic flaws on one or more of their genes. The flaws undermine the natural ability of their bodies to remove powerful chemicals, allowing these to attack cells in a key part of the brain.

The researchers, whose findings are published in *The Lancet*, estimate that people with the flawed gene are more than twice as likely to develop Parkinson's.

A team of molecular biologists led by Professor Roland Wolf, head of the charity's molecular pharmacology group in Edinburgh, conducted the research with clinicians co-ordinated by Professor Nigel Leigh at the Institute of Psychiatry in London.

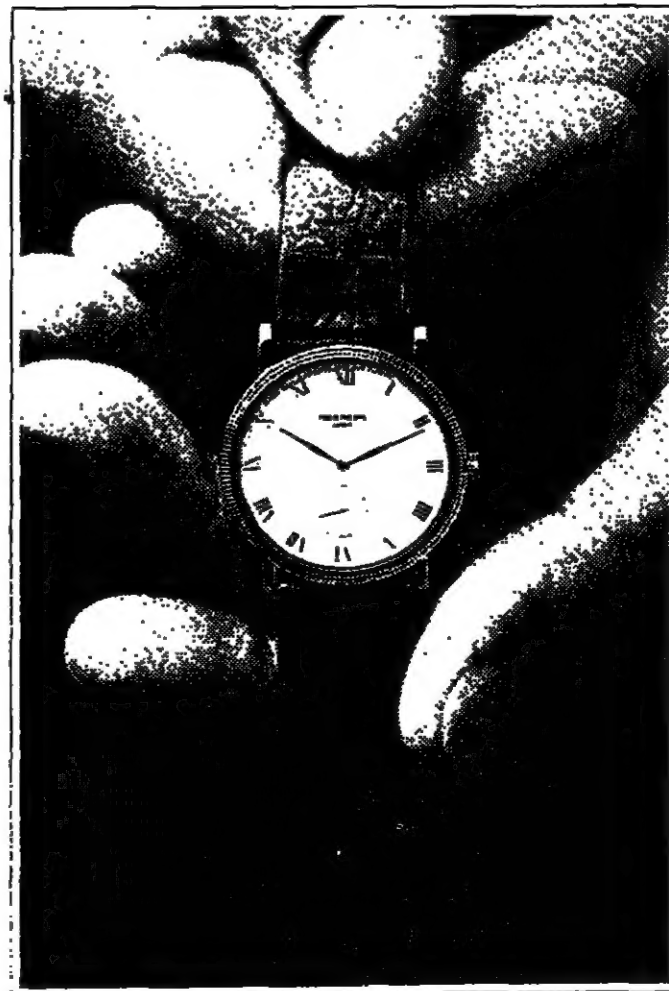
Researchers have suspected for some time that flaws or a flaw on the p450 gene might put people at risk of the disease. Some Parkinson's sufferers are unable to break down a drug routinely used for treating hypertension that has been linked with that gene.

Scientists have theorised that the inability to break down the drug might underpin a general inability to break down key chemicals that attack brain cells.

The new research, covering nearly 230 sufferers of the disease, has identified the flaws on the gene responsible, confirming the researchers' suspicions. Discovering the genetic mutations has been made possible by a DNA test developed by the charity's team of genetics researchers.

Dr Christopher Smith, a member of the fund's Edinburgh team, said yesterday: "If you look at these findings you still find Parkinson's sufferers that do not carry this mutated gene. What we are saying is it is one of the genetic susceptibility factors."

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Last Minute Booking Bargains

Each week throughout the summer, *The Times* and LBC will bring you news of last minute bargains available for travellers to France. The latest information on bookings, flights, traffic delays and holiday ideas.

● This weekend's bank holiday in France means that roads will be crowded and that many shops will be closed until Tuesday. The scheduled ending of the French Open tennis championship has led to evening flights from Paris on Sunday being heavily booked.

The AA says that traffic will be heavy on main roads in Ile de France with congestion likely in Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Toulouse and Bordeaux.

● Thomas Cook is offering a seven night camping holiday from Cosmes at Mar Estang in the South of France for £49 per adult and £29 per child, leaving London by coach on Monday and returning on June 17.

Network SouthEast and Sealink Stena Line are combining to offer day trips to Calais by train and ferry from £22. Railcard holders are entitled to further discounts.



Stop Press News at 6.50pm today on



Paris Travel Service has cut £50 from the price of its short breaks to Paris, reducing the cost of a three night stay to £129 including return flights from Gatwick and accommodation with breakfast in a two star hotel.

● BA says that flights to and from Lyon, Paris and Nice have plenty of seats available but that flights to and from Bordeaux, Marseille and Toulouse are almost fully booked.

Air France flights from Heathrow to Paris and Nice are heavily booked this evening (Friday) Plenty of seats

are, however, available on flights from Heathrow to Marseille and Lyon.

T.A.T. the French independent airline, is offering a round-trip fare of £160 from Gatwick to Paris or Lyon.

British Midland has return flights from Heathrow to Paris at £133 and unsold seats on all its French services this coming week.

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● P&O European Ferries will carry its five millionth passenger of the year this weekend. All sailings from Dover are busy so the company recommends early reservations.

Hoverspeed is offering a £49 special day return fare for a car and four passengers between Folkestone and Boulogne this weekend.

● Travalex, which has bureaux de change at the main air and seaports, says that the franc is steady against the pound with exchange rates between 10.35 and 10.40 when buying and 9.48 and 9.52 when selling.

● The *Times* columnist Peter Barnard will be interviewed by Angela Rippon on LBC Newstalk's *Drivetime* programme next Thursday, June 11, at 6.50pm.

Passport to France Life & Times section, page 4

Guy's starts trials on breast cancer therapy

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

A PROMISING new treatment for breast cancer, which harnesses the body's defences to fight the disease, is about to start trials in Britain. If successful, the treatment could lead to the development of an immunisation against cancer for women at high risk.

The new form of immunotherapy will be tried on 40 patients at Guy's hospital, London, who have had a recurrence of cancer several years after treatment. Early results from Canada, where a

similar trial is under way, are encouraging, scientists say.

Discovery of a molecule called mucin has raised hopes of an immunisation against cancer. Mucin is present in cells of the breast and in 90 per cent of breast cancer cells. Mucin in cancer cells differs from normal mucin, and the differences may provide targets for immunotherapy to attack.

The body does not recognise the cancer version of the molecule as sufficiently differ-

ent to allow it to mount an attack.

Now, scientists led by Joyce Taylor-Papadimitriou, head of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's epithelial cell biology laboratory, have identified the main chemical building blocks of mucin. They hope that giving patients a portion of the molecule will help the body to recognise mucin in cancer cells as abnormal and stimulate the immune system to attack the tumour. The immunisation would be given in part of the body far from the tumour so that it would escape tumours' "oppressive influence" on immune responses while stimulating the white blood cells to attack it.

Announcing the study at the launch of a campaign by the fund to improve public knowledge of breast cancer, scientists countered criticism that the death rate from breast cancer had failed to fall despite decades of research. "There have been dramatic advances in our understanding of cancer," Sir Walter Bodmer, the director-general of the fund, said.

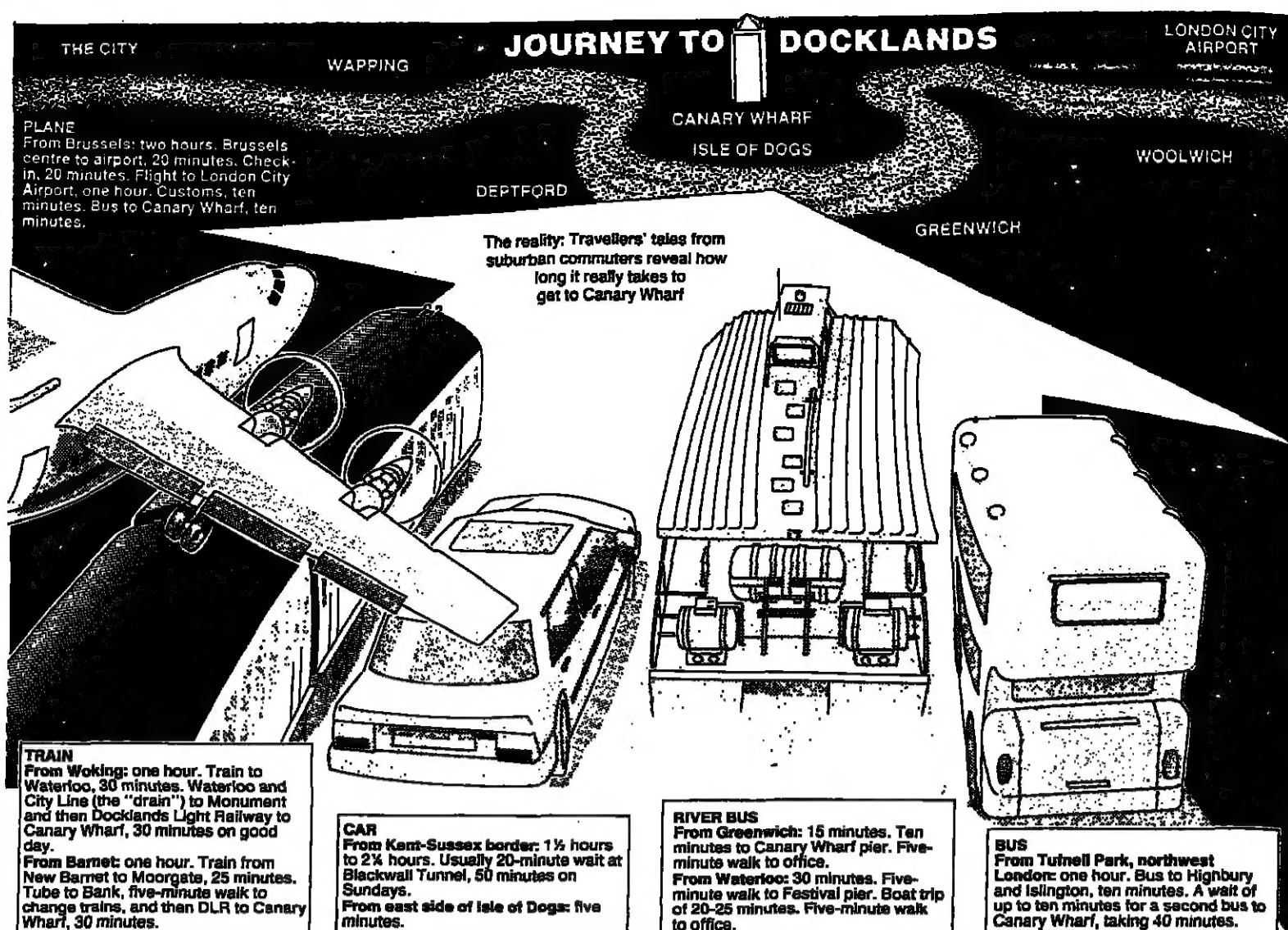
Study traces IVF rate

THE success rate of in-vitro fertilisation treatment declines greatly once a woman passes the age of 34, according to a new study of more than 2,500 women (Jeremy Laurance writes).

Up to the age of 34, however, the treatment is almost as successful as normal methods of conception in fertile couples. The research, published in *The Lancet* this week, shows that 55 per cent of women can expect to become pregnant and 45 per cent will

have a live birth within five cycles of treatment.

The study, carried out over four and a half years at the Hammersmith Medical Centre in London, aims to provide patients with a guide to the probability of successful in-vitro fertilisation. It shows that women aged between 35 and 39 have a 28.9 per cent chance of producing a baby after five cycles of IVF treatment. The figure falls to 14.4 per cent for those aged 40 and above.



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From Barnet: one hour. Train from New Barnet to Moorgate, 25 minutes. Tube to Bank, five-minute walk to change trains, and then DLR to Canary Wharf, 30 minutes.

CAR
From Kent-Sussex border: 1½ hours to 2½ hours. Usually 20-minute wait at Blackwall Tunnel, 50 minutes on Sundays.
From east side of Isle of Dogs: five minutes.

RIVER BUS
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From Waterloo: 30 minutes. Five-minute walk to Festival pier. Boat trip of 20-25 minutes. Five-minute walk to office.

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Strain and pain that dog the long trek east

Transport difficulties will mean that civil servants moving to Docklands will not be arriving in a hurry, Nicholas Watt writes

THE 2,000 civil servants who will swap their plum central London location for the outer reaches of Docklands by the end of next year have been warned by the pioneers who already commute eastward to expect an often gruelling journey.

The traffic congestion at Canary Wharf can be so severe that it often takes an hour to leave Docklands. Gareth Williams, a freelance chef, said: "A taxi ride back home to Putney once cost me £72 because it took an hour just to clear Docklands. My ideal way of travelling to Canary Wharf would be in my own boat."

Sleeping bags are a must if the mandarins have to work late and do not have a car. The last Docklands Light Railway service leaves Canary Wharf at 9.17pm, while the final river bus is at 7.45pm.

Officials at Michael Howard's environment department will entice staff to move by negotiating with the Treasury for better transport links. Today, planes, trains, buses, cars and boats all make the trek to Docklands, though at differing speeds and levels of comfort.

Kerry Ann Lewis sets out on the Tube at 8.30am from Ears Court. "I take the District Line to Monument which takes about 30 minutes. The Docklands Light Railway (DLR) then takes 15 minutes on a good day. I arrive at Canary Wharf before 9.30am. My weekly pass costs £10.90."

Andrew Smith, a computer consultant at Morgan Stanley, lives in Kingsbury. "I'm still experimenting on the best route, but at the moment I catch the tube at 8am from Hendon Central to Bank. I then catch the DLR to Canary Wharf. On a good day the journey takes an hour but this morning it took me an hour and 20 minutes. My journey costs £3 a day."

Andrew Hutchinson, managing editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, lives in Woking. "I leave home between 7.50 and 8.05 and catch the train to Waterloo between 8.20 and 8.40 which takes 30 minutes. I then catch the Waterloo and City Line to Bank where I catch the DLR. On a good day, I can be at Canary Wharf 30 minutes after getting off the train at Waterloo. The journey costs £4.70 a week."

Keith Lau, who works for the State Street Bank Trust in the Canary Wharf tower, lives in Barnet. "I catch the 7.10 Network SouthEast train from New Barnet to Moorgate which takes about 25 minutes. I then take the Northern Line one stop to Bank where I catch the DLR to Canary Wharf. The journey takes me about one hour. For the last three months the DLR service has been improving a lot. The journey costs me £880 a year."

Commuters from Belgium can arrive in Docklands in only two hours. A taxi from the centre of Brussels to the airport takes 20 minutes. Then there is 20 minutes to check in and wait for the flight to London City airport,

which takes an hour. Add ten minutes to clear customs and ten minutes to Canary Wharf by a special shuttle bus.

The car journey from the Kent-Sussex border can take up to two and a quarter hours. David Sapsted, who works for *The Daily Telegraph*, lives there and usually has a one and a half hour drive to Canary Wharf. "There is usually a 20 minute queue at the Blackwall tunnel. The worst journey I've had took me two and a quarter hours, while on Sundays it takes just 50 minutes."

But Steve Rumsey, who works for the consultancy firm Lehrer McGovern, has a five minute drive to the office. He used to commute from Brighton but gave up and bought a flat on the Isle of Dogs.

The most leisurely way is by River Bus. David Black, who lives in Blackheath and works for *The Daily Telegraph*, said: "I set off on foot through Greenwich Park at 9.30am. I catch the River Bus at 9.55 which takes ten minutes to Docklands. I get to the office between 10.15 and 10.20. That is much quicker than when I used to work in central London."

Nicholas Andrews, who lives in Leatherhead, Surrey, said: "I leave home at 7.05



Howard: department is earmarked for move

and catch the 7.20 to Waterloo which arrives at 8. I usually catch the River Bus from the Festival Pier at 8.20 which takes 20 to 25 minutes to get to Canary Wharf. The River Bus costs £22 a week and the train costs me £29.60 a week. The River Bus is also a very relaxing way to travel."

One bus traveller said that her journey was much easier than travelling to central London. Sarah Faulkner, who lives in Tufnell Park, catches two buses to Canary Wharf. "I catch a bus at 8.30 to Highbury and Islington which takes about ten minutes. I then catch the 277 to Docklands which takes 40 minutes. At most there is a ten minute wait for that bus. This costs £2 a day and is a much better journey than travelling to the West End."

Civil servants will be relieved that the environment department is planning to provide parking space at Docklands. The car park under Cabot Square costs £27 for seven to ten hours, while a three month season ticket costs £1,125.

Judges blame scientists, lawyers, DI and police

Prisoners hope for a move

IRA ends near-f

Judges blame scientists, lawyers, DPP and police

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

JUDITH Ward won total victory in her appeal yesterday after three judges strongly criticised the police, government scientists, the DPP's office and junior counsel for their handling of her case.

The Court of Appeal judges ruled that the failure by the police, the director of public prosecutions and scientists to disclose evidence was a material irregularity in the case. Lord Justice Glidewell, Nolan and Steyn formally quashed as "unsafe and unsatisfactory" Miss Ward's convictions and life sentence for the M62 IRA coach bombing and two other mainland explosions.

The Crown had already conceded the other two grounds of her appeal — the unreliability of her confessions and of the scientific evidence purporting to show that she had handled explosives. Miss Ward, aged 43, sat next to her solicitor as the judges took four and half hours to read a 139-page judgment which was devastating in its criticism of the prosecuting authorities.

The judgment said that the non-disclosure of evidence could have altered the course of the trial at Wakefield Crown Court in 1974 of Miss Ward, from Stockport, Greater Manchester.

Reserving their strongest condemnation for three prosecution forensic science witnesses, the judges accused them of acting in concert in withholding evidence. Douglas Higgs, principal scientific officer, the late Walter Elliott, higher scientific officer and George Berryman, higher scientific officer, had misled prosecution and defence.

The men, employed at the Royal Armament Research and Development Establish-

ment at Woolwich, southeast London, had suppressed evidence about tests which showed that boot polish could produce findings showing traces of nitroglycerine. Mr Elliott had given a misleading statement about the amount of nitroglycerine found on swabs taken from Miss Ward.

The conclusions of Frank Skuse, the Home Office forensic scientist whose methods were discredited in the Birmingham Six case, were dismissed as wrong.

Lord Justice Nolan said that the whole approach of West Yorkshire police was wrong. The force had sent only 225 out of 1,700 statements it had acquired to the Director of Public Prosecutions. Some of the material indicated Miss Ward's tendency to fantasise and contained information that the defence had been entitled to receive.

The judgment strongly criticised the late Det Chief Supt George Oldfield, the officer who led the enquiry, for not disclosing a series of interviews held with Miss Ward.

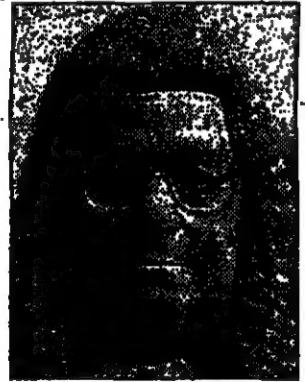
Lord Justice Nolan also criticised the way Brian Walsh, a junior counsel in the prosecution team and now a leading QC, and Michael Bibby, an official in the DPP's office and now a senior official in the Crown Prosecution Service, handled material. They had not disclosed a statement by Miss Ward that was crucial to shedding light on her veracity.

Lord Justice Nolan said Dr Frederick Lawson, principal medical officer at Risley remand centre, had not disclosed a second suicide attempt by Miss Ward.

Photograph, page 1



Nolan, left, and Steyn: evidence was withheld



Prisoners hope for a move

PROPOSALS to transfer republican prisoners convicted of offences in Britain to jails in Northern Ireland are to be put to government ministers within the next few weeks (Richard Ford writes).

In the wake of yesterday's quashing of Judith Ward's conviction, Irish prisoners' organisations are to increase pressure on the government to transfer the 32 prisoners serving sentences for paramilitary crime to the Maze and Maghaberry jails.

One prisoner, Ronald McCartney, sentenced to life imprisonment for conspiring to cause explosions, has been sent to a jail in the province on what is known as "long term temporary transfer". Prisoners are eligible for a temporary transfer if they have not had visits while in mainland jails. Campaigners within the Irish community want this facility to be extended to others convicted of paramilitary offences.

About 60 prisoners are understood to want a transfer so that they can be closer to their families. Almost all the 32 convicted of paramilitary crime want to transfer, including some who come from the Irish Republic.

Officials at the Home Office, Scottish Office and Northern Ireland Office have completed a review that is aimed at overcoming the legal difficulties on transferring prisoners to the province. Transfers are allowed under the Criminal Justice Act 1961 but any prisoner transferred permanently to the province is treated in terms of release as if sentenced in Northern Ireland where different regulations exist, particularly for those serving life sentences. Any permanent transfer under existing law would result in a substantial reduction in a prisoner's time in jail.

IRA trial ends in near-farce

FROM IAN MURRAY IN DUSSELDORF

THE first trial in Germany against suspected IRA paramilitaries ended in near-farce yesterday when the one remaining prisoner was given two and a half years after 21 months of hearings in which 180 witnesses gave evidence at a cost of millions of marks.

Gerard Hanratty, 33, who has been in custody since September 1988, grinned broadly as he was given a sentence which will allow him to walk free if the German constitutional court now rules that he cannot be extradited to Britain.

The prosecutor had asked for a life sentence for Hanratty, 33, for his alleged involvement in the bombings of two British army bases in which nearly 50 people were injured. But the court had already ruled that the evidence linking him with the paramilitary acts was inadequate. The case had had to proceed solely on charges of illegal possession of arms, for which the maximum sentence was less than the time he had spent in custody.

Hanratty and Terence McGeough, also 33, who was extradited to the United States last month, were caught during an IRA campaign. The IRA had admitted shooting and killing British servicemen in Holland and Belgium and planting car bombs in Germany at the BAOR headquarters in Rheindahlen and at a barracks in Duisburg.

Weapons found inside Hanratty and McGeough's car included an AK47 machine gun. Tests showed that it had been used in two attacks on soldiers in the previous two months.



Glidewell: unsafe and unsatisfactory conviction

'I was weak and immature, insecure, a bit of an idiot'

AS JUDITH Ward prepared to travel to the United States and Ireland to tell people about her case, she spoke last night of her anger at having spent more than 18 years in prison for a crime she did not commit (Richard Ford writes).

In the three weeks since she was given bail, Miss Ward has been rediscovering the joy of freedom and trying to forget her years of institutional life. "I try not to get bitter because you feel if you get too bitter it starts to eat you up. But I get very angry about it," she said.

She began to hope that she might be freed when she saw the releases of the Guildford Four and Birmingham Six on television. "I knew that my turn was coming because of the discredited forensic evidence."

Miss Ward, wearing one of several large hats she has bought since being freed, smoked throughout a 40-minute interview in which she denounced the IRA's present bombing campaign, admitted attending Sinn Féin meetings in the early seventies and said of those responsible for not disclosing material at the time of her trial: "They're bad boys."

They have to be called to account for it."

Speaking on Irish television, Miss Ward said that she was planning to live in Islington, north London and had had little difficulty adapting to changes that had happened since she was jailed at Wakefield Crown Court in November 1974.

"I have done a lot of shopping, a lot of sightseeing. It is nice to walk up and down the pavements with nobody saying 'stand there, do that.'"

Miss Ward, 43, said that at the time of her arrest in 1974 she had been "banning, mostly in London, sleeping rough" and not knowing what she was doing. "I was very weak and immature, insecure, a bit of an idiot. I was not strong enough to take pressure so I bowed under pressure."

She could not remember making admissions to police that formed a key part of the case against her but said that she had been in a bad state at the time. While working in southern Ireland in the early 1970s, her sympathies had been with the Catholic community in Northern Ireland who, she said, had been put upon. She had gone to a few

Sinn Féin meetings but did not think she had been a member of the IRA's political wing.

Asked whether she supported the IRA now, Miss Ward said: "Definitely not. I think their bombing campaign is horrendous." She does, however, believe that there will be no solution to Northern Ireland's difficulties until British troops withdraw.

In Holloway prison, Miss Ward studied European history, history of art and history of architecture and was awarded an Open University degree. She set up a desktop publishing company with two fellow inmates and is intending to write short stories.

Her immediate plans are to travel to Belfast with Anne Maguire, one of the Maguire seven, then to Dublin, France and the United States to speak about recent miscarriages of justice in the UK. She has an agent and is planning to write a book.

In an interview recorded for *Woman's Hour* on Radio Four, Miss Ward said that after her arrest the head of West Yorkshire police, the force that investigated the M62 bombing, had given her

a fiver and told two officers to take her for a lager and lime in the police training college. "There we are on a Sunday night, surrounded by about 75 police officers watching television with lagers and lime. Do they treat people like this who they think are really these nasty IRA bombers?"

She said she was confused when she made her confessions. "I had lack of sleep, lack of food. I just didn't know who was asking what."

She told of her two suicide attempts while on remand at Risley, awaiting trial. "I'm quite sure that the state I was in at the time, I would have done it if I could have got the right equipment. I was just totally off my head."

"It's like talking about a different person 20 years ago. That's not me now. Quite frankly I don't care what names they call me. It doesn't really bother me as long as they don't call me an IRA bomber."

For the first few years of her 15-year spell in Durham prison's maximum security wing, she said she was just following prison routine. "Later there were periods when I was just under the bed with depression."

"When I came to Milton Keynes I kept all my things in a rucksack. Now I keep them in a 3 bedroom house with a garage."

"Milton Keynes started life in 1967. So did I. I moved here from Yorkshire five years ago. I arrived with £15, a rucksack and a motor-bike. I now I own a three bedroom detached house with a garage — great for the Go-Kart and the old Porsche I'm restoring. I'm sales and marketing executive for Cranfield Conference Services, so in my job I often have to sell Milton Keynes — and that's not difficult for me because it's head and shoulders above anywhere else."

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Ministers defeated in Lords

Sporting edge

Hess denial

Vietnam aid

Parliamentary Council

Next week's business

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Portillo takes toughest line for a decade with ministers

Public sector pay rise to be pegged at 4%

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A SEVERE squeeze on public sector pay is being forecast by ministers as the government faces up to its toughest public expenditure round for more than a decade.

Today marks the deadline for the submission to the Treasury of bids by ministers at the spending departments. They are expected to exceed the £244 billion target for 1993-4 by well over £10 billion. Against the background of a public sector deficit this year of £28 billion, rising to more than £32 billion next year, senior ministers are saying that this year's negotiations between Michael Portillo, the Treasury chief secretary, and his cabinet colleagues will be gruesome.

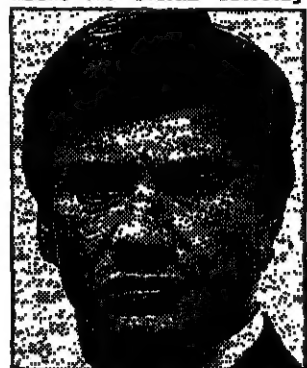
The government will be looking for increases of no more than an inflation-matching 4 per cent next year in the main public sector bills, covering doctors, nurses, teachers and the armed forces. If the review bodies recommend increases above that level, they are likely to be phased in.

Mr Portillo, an adherent of the Thatcherite orthodoxy of tight control of public spending, is said by colleagues to be relishing the prospect of hard-headed negotiations, in the knowledge that he has the prime minister's backing to

take difficult decisions in the early years of a government.

Senior ministers say that if the government is to meet its targets of reducing borrowing, bringing inflation down to the level of the main European competitors, and providing scope for tax cuts nearer the next election, it must cut back on spending.

With many spending areas protected by Conservative manifesto pledges, Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, has decided that a root-and-branch examination of departmental budgets should take place. That means that this year's round will not only involve an attempt by Mr Portillo to pare back the bids above the overall Treasury



Portillo: backed by the prime minister

planning total, but that ministers will have to justify spending on areas that have been taken for granted.

Mr Major began the process of "looking below the baseline" some years ago when he was chief secretary but, according to Whitehall insiders, this year's exercise will be far more rigorous than before.

Michael Howard, the environment secretary, is understood to have prepared a substantial bid for extra spending to soften the impact of the new council tax. He will argue that the government cannot repeat the mistake it made over the community charge which was effectively sunk by the size of its first year bills.

There will be heavy pressures on the social security budget because of the rising cost of unemployment and the two new women members of the cabinet Virginia Bottomley, at health, and Gillian Shephard, at employment, face a hard battle.

The Treasury is understood to be determined to put the training budget under the sharpest scrutiny again, arguing that more of the costs should be borne by employers.

Mrs Bottomley is believed to want some £400 million to ease the introduction of the



Shephard: will have to fight hard to secure extra funds for the employment department

community care reforms.

Treasury ministers are already saying that the big > election increases in health spending will not be repeated.

The prime minister's promise of real increases in the health budget can be met, but not by a big margin, they are saying.

The other main confrontation could come between Mr Portillo and John Patten, the education secretary, who will

want extra funds to meet the rush of applications for opening out.

Both Mr Portillo and Mr Lamont have stressed recently that the government's objective is to balance the budget over the medium term. Mr Portillo has said that a failure to rein back on spending would create an "unacceptable legacy" for future generations.

Lilley to act on pensions

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PETER Lilley, social security secretary, is expected to announce a wide-ranging review of pension laws and regulations on Monday, pre-empting Tuesday's Commons debate on the Maxwell pensioners.

The review, trailed in the debate on the Queen's Speech, will look at all aspects of pension legislation to see whether regulations need to be tightened to prevent a repeat of the Maxwell scandal.

Mr Lilley will announce the enquiry's terms of reference to coincide with a Westminster lobby of Maxwell pensioners. He is not expected to make a statement on whether Maxwell pensioners will be compensated.

The government is under pressure from Tory backbenchers and the Opposition to protect pension funds from going bankrupt before missing assets are retrieved. An all-party group of MPs has already pressed Mr Lilley to set up a "drip-fund" to help pension funds in the short term. He has said he sees this as an open-ended commitment, but has not ruled out financial support for the pensioners. Benefit offices have been told to treat sympathetically any pensioners no longer getting their money.

Meanwhile, pressure is being put on financial institutions to return assets belonging to the funds.

Prescott queries union's ballot

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Prescott challenged the Transport and General Workers' Union yesterday over how it conducted its ballot on the Labour deputy leadership.

Mr Prescott has written to Bill Morris, the union's general secretary, to ask how votes in the second round of the ballot were distributed between himself and Margaret Beckett, the favourite to become deputy leader.

In the first round, none of the candidates secured an absolute majority. Mrs Beckett took 46 per cent of the vote, Mr Prescott 39 per cent, and Bryan Gould 15 per cent. In the second round, Mrs Beckett took 54 per cent to Mr Prescott's 46 per cent. Mr Prescott said that the ballot paper did not allow for a second preference, and it was unclear how the vote had been divided once Mr Gould had dropped out.

A union spokesman said the ballot had been conducted on a single transferable vote, which had been made clear to all members. The ballot papers listed the three candidates, allowing an order of preference. After the first round, the second preferences of those who had voted for Mr Gould were shared between the other two candidates.

"It's all perfectly clear and there is no need for anyone to muddy the waters," the spokesman said. Mr Morris would be replying to Mr Prescott's letter.

Earlier, Mr Prescott pre-

sented himself as the only candidate for the deputy leadership who had put forward ideas to attract more party members. He said that Labour's membership had fallen by a third to about 200,000 since 1988, when he stood for deputy leadership. The party's headquarters say that the membership is about 260,000 with a further 50,000 who have not paid, partly due to a decision to put the membership list on a computer.

Mr Prescott called for the introduction of a "Levy Plus" scheme, whereby members of trade unions who already paid a political levy could gain full party membership by paying a nominal sum of about £2. The party needed a million members for financial stability, he said. "If we recruit one person per branch, per week, we would have a million new members and a fourfold increase in our finances within three years."

The £15 membership fee was often a barrier, he said. He suggested cheaper family membership fees and using the Co-op Visa card for raising membership. At present, a proportion of each transaction on the card was donated to the Labour party. This should be accepted as part of membership payment.

The use of computer technology had alienated members and should be replaced by more personal contact. "Knocking on the door is still very effective."



Ministers defeated in Lords

The government suffered its first defeat in the Lords since the election when an amendment to the Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) bill was carried by 121 votes to 80.

The change will prevent televised evidence being produced in war crimes trials north of the border. The original English legislation was rejected in the Lords but the government used the Parliament Acts to force it through at the second attempt. Peers and the government have long been at odds over the changing the law to bring alleged Nazi war criminals to trial.

Sporting edge

The advent of more television channels means more and better coverage of sport, John Major said at question time. He was responding to Robert Hicks, Tory MP for Cornwall South East, who had said there was resentment during the recent cricket World Cup final from Australia.

Hess denial

Pressed to explain at question time why certain Foreign Office papers relating to Rudolf Hess, Hitler's deputy, were still being withheld from the Public Record Office, the prime minister told Andrew MacKinlay, Labour MP for Thurrock, that he did not share the conspiracy theory. "If there is a cover-up it has certainly been covered up from me as well," he said.

Vietnam aid

Britain is providing another £1 million of aid to Vietnam, Baroness Chalker, the overseas aid minister, announced.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on tenants' rights and opportunities.

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week is expected to be: Monday: Sea Fish (Conservation) bill, second reading. Tuesday: Debates on Opposition motions on ethnic minorities and on Maxwell pensioners. Wednesday: Finance bill, committee, first day. Northern Ireland anti-terrorism order. Thursday: Debate on science and technology. Friday: Debate on reform of the CAP.

The main business in the Lords is expected to be: Monday: Debates on the

teaching of arts in schools and on the future of County Hall in London.

Tuesday: Armed Forces (Liability for Injury) bill, second reading. Debate on the Christmas Island atom bomb test victims.

Wednesday: Debates on the export of works of art and on energy use and generation. Thursday: Human Fertilisation and Embryology (Disclosure of Information) bill, second reading. Debate on motion to allow teachers to decline to teach on HIV and Aids and to allow parents to withdraw children from such lessons.

Major assures peers of support

BY SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major assured Conservative peers last night that his pursuit of a classless society does not extend to meddling with the House of Lords.

With three lists of new life peers to be published within the next week, the prime minister told the annual gathering of more than 200 peers that he regards the Lords as a useful means of bringing people of ability into Parliament. Unlike his predecessor, John Major was at pains to win over their lordships, making clear that he would listen carefully to their arguments.

The honours lists will top up the Lords with a mixture of former cabinet ministers and others prominent in public life. At the request of Labour, Mr Major has agreed to attach to the Queen's birthday honours list a further list of "working" peers from outside Parliament.

The novelist Jeffrey Archer, a confidant of Mr Major, has been cleared this time for a life peerage by the honours scrutiny committee of Lords Pym, Shackleton and Grimond, which considered him unsuitable for inclusion in Margaret Thatcher's dissolution honours list. Dissolution lists are usually for former cabinet ministers and privy counsellors.

Today's list is expected to include at least nine Conservatives: Margaret Thatcher, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson, Cecil Parkinson, Norman Tebbit, Nicholas Ridley, Peter Walker, John Moore and Sir Ian Gilmour. Bernard Weatherill is on the list but, as a former Speaker, he is expected to sit on the cross benches.

On Labour's side the new life peers will include Denis Healey, Denis Howell, Merlyn Rees, Jack Ashley and Peter Archer.

Other former MPs will also be given life peerages on either the dissolution or working honours lists, including the former SDP leader David Owen, the former Liberal Democrat MP Geraint Howells, and the former Plaid Cymru leader Dafydd Elis Thomas.

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The faces of rebellion: James Cran, left, one of the senior signatories to the motion, Cheryl Gillan, Christopher Gill, Barry Legg, Ann Winterton, and Nigel Evans

Downing Street brushes off Maastricht revolt

By NICHOLAS WOOD AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE Great Maastricht Revolt exposed the two faces of government yesterday.

As early morning headlines suggested that John Major was facing the first big challenge from his own ranks since becoming prime minister, Downing Street officials and senior ministers sought to play down the significance of a Commons motion signed by 69 Tories calling for "fresh start" in Britain's relations with the EC.

They had swiftly seized upon the Danish referendum result to display their latent hostility to the Maastricht treaty. According to Downing Street the motion was a "fairly bland" statement of Tory policy on Europe, and officials wasted no time in finding parts of the text in accord with Mr Major's objectives of a wider and more competitive EC.

It was a pity no one had told the whips. Of the 69 signatories 26 were members of the new intake of Conserva-

tive MPs. While the official channels were pouring oil on troubled waters, these unfortunates were being pursued and rubbed by their parliamentary prefects.

The heavy mob, in the abundant shape of David Lightbown, a senior whip, was widely reported to have been on the prowl. At least one fresh-faced young Tory was nervously contemplating the prospect of an urgent appointment with his whip yesterday afternoon. Others were picked off in the corridors with barbed suggestions that their hopes of office might have already turned to dust.

As the signatures were being frantically collected the night before, senior rebel James Cran left a sheet of paper bearing 12 names on the MPs' board in the members' lobby of the Commons. It was to be collected by Christopher Gill, the chief recruiting officer for the rebels, and taken to the Com-

THE REBEL MOTION

"That this House urges Her Majesty's Government to use the decision to postpone the passage of the European Communities (Amendment) bill as an opportunity to make a fresh start with the future development of the EEC, and in particular to concentrate its efforts on the chosen agenda of the British presidency, which is to extend the borders of the EEC and to create a fully competitive common market."

The motion disappeared, leaving the motion 12 short of the expected tally. An unknown "whip's mark" was fingered by the rebels for the shortfall.

The prime minister was said to have inadvertently stumbled across the plotters in a stroll on the terrace of the Commons on Wednesday night but not realised what they were up until too late.

Nigel Evans, MP for Ribbles Valley, was one of those to reject suggestions that he and his friends had been gulled by the old whips. "I am sure that everybody who has signed that motion read it before they signed it and realises the full consequences of it," Mr Evans said.

worth, wrote to Richard Ryder, the chief whip, saying that "the Maastricht corpse would not walk again" and urging the prime minister to take his great opportunity to build a Europe founded on free-market principles.

The following 69 Tory MPs appeared on the Commons order paper yesterday morning as signatories of the motion urging the government to make a "fresh start" in its approach towards the European Community. Twenty-six are members of the new intake of Tory MPs. Twenty-four of those voted in favour of the second reading of the Maastricht treaty ratification bill. Of the total of 69 only 17 had voted against the second reading of the bill on May 21. They are indicated by asterisks.

Keynes South West, Michael Fabricant (Mid-Suffolk), James Cran (Beverly), John Butcher (Coventry South West), Nijj Joseph Deva (Brentford and Isleworth), William Cash (Stafford), Christopher Gill (Ludlow), Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield), David Shaw (Dover), Alan Duncan (Rutland and Melton), Nigel Waterson (Eastbourne), David Faber (Westbury), John Sykes (Scarborough).

Peter Ainsworth (Surrey East), Charles Hendry (High Peak), Harley Booth (Rushley), Nick Hawkins (Blackpool South), Geoffrey Clifton-Brown (Cirencester and Tewkesbury), John Whittingdale (Colchester South and Maldon), Bernard Jenkin (Colchester North), David Congdon (Croydon North-East), Iain Duncan-Smith (Chingford), Raymond Robertson (Aberdeen South), Bill Walker (Tayside North), Roy Thomson (Bromsgrove), Lady Olga Maitland (Sutton and Chess), John Greenway (Rye),

Nigel Evans (Ribbles Valley), Liam Fox (Woodspring), David Williams (Havant), Anna Winterton (Congleton), Andrew Hensler (Basingstoke), Phil Galtie (Ayr), Bob Dunn (Dartford), Vivian Boddall (Ilford North), Richard Alexander (Newark), Toby Jessel

(Twickenham), James Hill (Southampton Test), Sir Rhodes Boyson (Brent North), "Tony Marlow" (Northampton North), "Sir Teddy Taylor" (Southend East), "Sir Richard Body" (Holland with Boscon), Richard Shepherd (Aldridge Brownhills), "Harry Greenway" (Ealing North), "Teresa Gorman" (Billerica), Barry Porter (Wirral South), Roger Moore (Faversham), John Cardie (Luton North).

Sir George Gardiner (Reigate), Sir Trevor Smeeth (Bedfordshire North), Roger Knapman (Stroud), Ivan Lawrence (Burton), Peter Griffiths (Purton), Sir Patrick McNair-Wilson (New Forest), Sir Thomas Arnold (Hazel Grove), Robert Jones (Hertfordshire West), Cheryl Gillan (Chesham and Amersham), John Townend (Bridlington), Michael Shersby (Uxbridge), David Evans (Welwyn Hatfield), James Pavey (Daglingworth), Warren Hawley (Halesowen and Stourbridge), Sir Nicholas Bonsor (Uxbridge), David Wiltshire (Spelthorne), John Watts (Slough), Den Dover (Chorley), Peter Fry (Wellingborough), David Lidington (Aylesbury), Dr Ian Paisley (Antrim North), leader of the Democratic Ulster Unionists, has also signed the motion.

Danes may force Major to show his true colours

The Danes may succeed where others have failed in winking out an answer to the question: what kind of European is John Major?

One minister said this week: "I have heard the prime minister in conversation with Trisaran Garel-Jones and I have heard him in conversation with Peter Lilley, and I'm damned if I know which one he agrees with." It is not that Mr Major speaks with two tongues; he simply has a gift for avoiding entrapment.

On Europe, so far, there have been signals rather than commitments. As Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Major helped to persuade Margaret Thatcher to take Britain into the exchange-rate mechanism. However, he insisted from the start that there could be no "imposition" of a single currency or a European central bank.

In his early days at No 10, Mr Major was claimed by the Eurosceptics when he insisted that the EC was a "fact of life" to his generation, thus distancing himself from the handbag-swinging era. That helped him through his first EC summit, in December 1991. He cultivated other European leaders, notably Chancellor Kohl, practising the Euro-politics of framing alliances in the "you scratch my back, and I'll scratch yours" way that his counterparts appreciate and which Mrs Thatcher scorned.

With an election a possibility last year, he headed off the threat that last July's European Council in Luxembourg would force the pace on European integration by his careful preparatory work with Chancellor Kohl and President Mitterrand. They were cheered into compliance by his declaration in Bonn that Britain's place was "at the very heart of Europe". However, what is more significant about that speech, looking back, is that it was devoted more to healing breaches in the Conservative party than to any "vision thing" about the EC, which he was warning, even then, not to rush on economic and monetary union.

There was a careful balance. When Tory Eurosceptics overreached themselves last summer, he told a Tory conference that "suking on the fringe" of talks about the future of Europe could never be right. However, he was still insisting at home last June that "the economic case for monetary union has not been made" and he has argued that Europe's diversity of nation states is its strength.

At Maastricht, he won concessions that few Eurosceptics had thought possible. Buoyed by that success, and by the discipline of pre-election loyalty, Mr Major had little trouble with the Tories in winning support for his deal in two Commons votes. However, even with the other discipline — that of a much smaller majority — there

POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

By ROBIN OAKLEY

was a significant Tory rebellion of 22 when the new Commons voted on the principle of Maastricht.

That was a warning. Now, Denmark has changed the mood and the arithmetic in the Tory party. The fence of party loyalty has been trampled, and Eurosceptics are running free. One after another, they rose in the Commons on Wednesday to insist that this was not a disaster but an opportunity to press for further shrinkage of the centralising tendencies of the Rome treaty. There is ministerial sympathy for Tories who are calling, in effect, for renegotiation of Maastricht, and sympathy for George Walden's *cri de coeur* that government, Commons and country had never wanted the treaty and that it had never been more than making the best of a bad job.

There is little sign of the misery in Whitehall that might have been expected from the rejection of a treaty that Britain had played a significant role in framing. Challenged to admit that the Danes may have helped a process that Mr Major was seeking to intensify with a British drive for a wider EC embracing EFTA nations and the Central Europeans, officials do not respond. Their quiet smiles do not, however, fade.

Mr Major has had to open post-referendum proceedings as a good European, insisting that Britain and the others will ratify and seeking subtly to pressure the Danes in what he was insisting yesterday was their predicament.

However, the due to almost all that Mr Major has done on Europe is party unity. He is the whip as prime minister. He kept to the median line. Those close to him say that he is, indeed, a European. All things being equal, he will take a pro-European line. He is, however, a pragmatic pro-European, and country and party come first. In the election campaign, Mr Major did not hesitate to play the anti-Brexit card, revealing his scepticism over a single European currency.

Mr Major knows that Mrs Thatcher's troubles with the party came in large measure because she had become identified with one end of the European argument. With his whip's instinct, he has so far sensed the Tory centre of gravity on Europe and stuck to it.

Now, however, just as Mr Major inherits Britain's EC presidency with the task of clearing up the Maastricht mess, that Tory centre of gravity is shifting fast. He has to choose between pressing on for the EC objectives or shifting with his party. We are about to learn precisely what kind of European Mr Major is.

Senior Labour MPs call for a 'no' vote

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

FRESH doubts over the Labour leadership's approach to the Maastricht treaty bill surfaced yesterday when senior members of the shadow cabinet suggested that the party should vote against it.

While Labour MPs were privately relieved that the Danish decision allowed the party to cover up its own divisions on Europe, Bryan Gould and John Prescott insisted that the whole treaty should be reconsidered. Both MPs said that Labour should exploit the confusion to renew its efforts to have the social chapter included in the treaty and to have other parts concerning the economy and the environment redrafted.

The Labour leadership maintains that the government needs to take part in shaping any treaty, but the number of the party's MPs who are likely to vote against the ratification bill is growing. Mr Prescott said yesterday that it would be absurd to accept the bill in its present form. The parliamentary Labour party will discuss its stand at its meeting next week.

Mr Gould, a candidate for the party leadership and deputy leadership, said at a campaign meeting in Norwich

last night that the Treaty of Rome made clear that any amendment treaty had to be ratified by every member state. "The Danish decision means therefore that the Maastricht Treaty as proposed is now effectively dead," he said. "History may well decide that the Danes have done us a favour by allowing the chance for second and better thoughts."

The convergence criteria for single currency should be renegotiated "so that progress towards a single currency is not simply a recipe for high unemployment". Foreign, defence, environment and energy policies should also be better co-ordinated. "We need a people's Europe, a citizens' Europe, an environmental Europe, not just a central bankers' Europe."

Mr Prescott, also a contender for the deputy leadership, said that he would not support the Maastricht bill if it reappeared in the same form. Going ahead with the treaty without the Danes would create a two-tier Europe. "The Danes have rejected it and we must start again. We must go back to the social chapter and enlarging Europe. The treaty is dead."

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France wins watered-down wording Nato offers troops to help keep peace

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN OSLO

SOLDIERS from Nato's 16 countries can join future peacekeeping operations in Europe, the alliance's foreign ministers announced here yesterday.

However, they did so in language so vague that decisions to deploy troops will be complex. The watered-down wording reflects last-minute resistance from France, supported by Spain and Belgium, to any announcement which places Nato at the centre of peacekeeping operations that might be decided by the 52-nation Conference of Security and Co-operation in Europe.

France wants to confine Nato's role after the Cold war to last-resort nuclear protection in order to dilute American influence in Europe. Britain and America support Nato's search for additional roles, such as peacekeeping in ethnic flashpoints. A CSCE summit meeting next month

is expected to strengthen its means to intervene in crises similar to those in the Balkans and Nagorno-Karabakh. Lawrence Eagleburger, the American deputy secretary of state, suggested to yesterday's meeting that Nato should help enforce sanctions against Serbia, but did not specify what sort of forces might be needed.

Nato diplomats made clear that Nato was unlikely to be involved in peacekeeping in the Balkans which, they said, was the responsibility of the United Nations. A separate statement issued yesterday condemned Serbia, Montenegro and the Yugoslav federal army as having "the main responsibility" for "clear, gross and uncorrected violations of CSCE commitments".

Yesterday's communiqué makes the unprecedented offer of Nato troops and facilities for peacekeeping but

leaves the details of the necessary decision-making ill-defined. "We are prepared to support, on a case-by-case basis... peacekeeping activities under the responsibility of the CSCE, including making available alliance resources and expertise," the communiqué said.

This compromise formula falls well short of the clear signal that Nato's co-ordination machinery would take the lead in peacekeeping operations, which a majority of governments originally wanted. Requests for peacekeeping help from the CSCE would be addressed to Nato and to individual governments, leaving open the possibility that groups of states could participate or not as they chose.

The meeting also sent an oblique warning to the French and German governments that their plan for a joint "Eurocorps", announced recently by their leaders, risks confusing further the already crowded line-up of security groupings in Europe. The ministers' announcement emphasised that security and stability in Europe would be best guaranteed by a "framework of interlocking and mutually reinforcing decisions".

The charge levelled at the German government since the launch of the "Eurocorps" is that the 35,000-strong force's relations with Nato and the nine-nation Western European Union are ambiguous.

House votes for more troop cuts

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE House of Representatives has voted to reduce the number of American troops in Europe from 235,000 to 100,000 by 1995, 50,000 fewer than the minimum proposed by the Bush administration.

The amendment to the 1993 defence bill was approved by 241 votes to 162 on Wednesday night, a margin that demonstrated the fragility of domestic support for keeping American troops abroad at a time of runaway deficits and economic hardship at home. Administration officials fear that support could evaporate altogether if France and Germany push ahead with plans for what is perceived here as a "European army" designed to rival Nato and diminish American influence in Europe.

The House also voted 225 to 177 for an overall reduction of 40 per cent in American troops based overseas, 219 to 186 for an amendment to save \$3.5 billion (£1.95 billion) on overseas troops next year, and 296 to 166 for making South Korea, Japan and Europe contribute more to the costs of stationing American troops in their countries.

The cuts are opposed by the administration and will probably be scaled back by the Senate, but commentators said the votes demonstrated a

marked shift in congressional and public perceptions of America's international role, now that the Cold war is over. Previously Congress had mostly adopted non-binding "sense of Congress" resolutions, which merely urged allies to bear more of the defence burden. These amendments would be binding, and for the first time attracted significant support from Republicans. "This year we really mean it," Pat Schroeder, a Colorado Democrat, said. Ms Schroeder, who has fought to have American troops brought home, hailed what she called "four very historic burden-sharing amendments" that she believed would make a tremendous difference.

Military sources in Washington said that keeping only 100,000 troops in Europe was a tenable proposition, "but if it falls below that their viability comes into question. There is a point at which it becomes uneconomical to maintain heavy forces in Europe".

Richard Cheney, the defence secretary, said last night that the overall cuts of \$7 billion on what the administration had requested were too great, and the reductions in overseas troops would "force us to go to lower levels quicker" than what was acceptable.



Taking advice: Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, left, the Danish foreign minister, speaking to Klaus Kinkel, his German counterpart, at the Nato-EC meeting in Oslo yesterday

Germans unite against Kohl to retain mark

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

THE good news for Bonn from the Danish referendum was that the mark strengthened against all other main currencies. The bad news was that it dealt a crippling blow to prospects for a common European currency.

The campaign to defend the mark has won popular support from the extreme right to the far left. Bild, which was the first paper to draw attention to the fact that the mark was threatened, rejoiced yesterday that the Danes might have saved "our lovely money".

When he returned from Maastricht six months ago, Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, claimed that the progress towards his dream of a united states of Europe was "irreversible". To turn this dream into reality, he was ready to surrender the mark to provide the basis on which a strong European currency could be built.

The public, for whom the mark represents the achievements of the postwar era, has never been happy with the prospect of losing it. A poll yesterday by the Wickert Institute showed that 89 per cent want to keep the mark, and that 81 per cent want a referendum on the subject. Overall, 75 per cent said that they did not trust the ability of European Community civil servants to run the economy.

These findings were mirrored in a telephone poll conducted on Wednesday evening by ARD, the main television channel. An invitation to viewers to ring in attracted 70,000 callers, of

whom 81 per cent were against European union. A similar poll by a local radio station in Hesse recorded 70 per cent of 2,000 callers opposing Maastricht.

For Herr Kohl, these results spell trouble. He was already racing against the clock to complete consultations needed to ensure ratification of the treaty in time. Now complicated consultations with the prime ministers of the German states threaten to drag on even longer he expected. This is because the states have been demanding constitutional changes that would give them control over EC legislation. Encouraged by the Danish result, they are determined to hold out for a veto right on almost every aspect of Community policy before they give their approval for ratification in the Bundesrat (upper house).

Given the new and militant anti-European public mood, there is even growing uncertainty in the Bundesrat (lower house) over whether there will be a majority in favour of Maastricht. Karl Lamers, foreign policy spokesman of the Christian Democrats, has said that "there must now be a really fitting, full-scale debate". Hermann Solms, house leader of the Free Democrats, says he does not think he can recommend approval of the treaty unless and until the states are satisfied with what they are being offered. The opposition Social Democrats are split between those who are prepared to see the treaty ratified and those who want a special Community summit first.

Overall, the chancellor has to face the fact that the Danish result has shattered public confidence in his European policy, which was the one important area where he believed he had made tangible progress since unification. The constitution does not allow a referendum on Maastricht but, with public concern aroused, Herr Kohl is in a real dilemma. His Christian Democrats are at a ten-year low in opinion polls because of public disenchantment over unification. If he insists on pressing ahead with the timetable to surrender the mark, his party must expect to become even more unpopular.

He confidently says that the worst problems of unification will be over before the 1994 general election, but by then the imminent demise of the mark could well lose him many votes.

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Case against EC bolstered in Scandinavia

Support for the Community is beginning to waver throughout Europe, Our Foreign Staff write

A tide of anti-European sentiment has gathered force in Scandinavia after the decision by Danish voters to reject the Maastricht treaties for European union, opinion polls showed yesterday.

Two polls published by the evening papers *Expressen* and *Aftonbladet* in Stockholm suggested that of those questioned, 68 per cent and 45 per cent respectively were opposed to the entry of Sweden into the Community. Of those questioned, 32 per cent and 28 per cent wanted Sweden to join. In April, a poll by *Aftonbladet* had suggested that 37 per cent were in favour, 37 per cent against and 25 per cent were undecided.

In Norway, an opinion poll published early yesterday by the *Aftenposten* daily newspaper suggested that

53 per cent of Norwegians were opposed to the entry of Norway into the Community compared to 33 per cent who were in favour. A poll carried out by the newspaper three weeks ago suggested that 47 per cent were "against" Europe and 39 per cent in favour.

The Dutch, traditionally among the staunchest pro-Europeans, are also wavering in their enthusiasm for the Maastricht treaty, according to two polls published yesterday. Both showed lower than expected support for the blueprint for closer political and economic union that was drafted by

the Dutch government during its presidency of the Community in the second half of last year.

A poll for the *NRC Handelsblad* newspaper found only 49.5 per cent in favour of the treaty rejected by Danish voters this week, while 18.5 per cent were against it and 32 per cent were non-committal. Nearly 58 per cent said that there should be a referendum on the issue — even though there is no provision for such a procedure in the Dutch constitution. The poll for Dutch television found that 57 per cent backed Maastricht, with 51 per cent calling for a referendum.

In the Netherlands, there has been little political debate or public interest in the treaty that was submitted to parliament for ratification on Wednesday.

More than two out of three French citizens will vote for European unity in the referendum President Mitterrand has called, an opinion survey in the daily *Le Parisien* showed yesterday.

The survey, conducted by the CSA institute after Mitterrand's announcement on Wednesday, showed that 69 per cent of those who said that they would participate in the referendum would vote for the Maastricht treaties on political and economic union, compared to 31 per cent against. However, 42 per cent of all those surveyed said that they would not

participate. The poll showed that 78 per cent approved of a referendum, compared to 9 per cent who disagreed and 13 per cent who had no opinion.

Le Parisien reported that 79 per cent said that Denmark's rejection of the treaties at a referendum on Tuesday did not influence their opinion. Four per cent said that it made them more favourable to European unity and 9 per cent said that it turned them against it.

No date has been fixed for the referendum but Elizabeth Guigou, the European affairs minister, said that it would probably be held in the autumn. French television suggested September. President Mitterrand, who was one of the architects of closer European union, had favoured pushing ratification through parliament alone.

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age hope

Thomas Kemp, 70, is hoping to see his son, who is a prisoner of war in the Soviet Union, after 10 years. Kemp is a former soldier in the British Army. He was captured in 1945 and spent the next 45 years in the Soviet Union. He is now living in the United Kingdom.

parts held

An illegal shipment of spare parts for a Soviet-made tank was intercepted on route to Poland. The parts were being smuggled from the Czech Republic. The Polish customs officials discovered the shipment while inspecting a truck. The parts were seized and the driver was arrested.

th queried

Sweden is investigating the death of a film maker, who was killed in a car accident. The accident occurred in the town of Västana. The film maker was on his way to work. The car was driving at a high speed when it lost control and crashed into a tree. The driver was killed.

blockaded

Barbados is blocking the entry of ships from the Soviet Union. The ships are carrying goods that are being used to support the Soviet economy. The Barbados government is taking this action in response to the Soviet Union's support for the apartheid regime in South Africa.

rods found

Austrian authorities have found a cache of Soviet-made weapons and ammunition. The cache was discovered in a forest near the border with the Czech Republic. The weapons include rifles, machine guns, and anti-aircraft guns. The cache is believed to have been left behind by Soviet soldiers who were fighting in the Czechoslovakian resistance during the Second World War.

ape foiled

Albanian police have foiled an attempt to smuggle a large quantity of drugs into the country. The drugs were being smuggled in a container that was being transported by a private company. The police discovered the drugs while inspecting the container. The drugs were seized and the company was fined.

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Campaign strategists defect to Perot camp

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush scheduled a news conference last night, only the second of his presidency, in an attempt to bypass an increasingly hostile press and take his case for re-election directly to the American people. The attempt flopped. Not a single American network, apart from CNN, decided that the event merited live coverage.

However, as things seem at the White House, they continue to get worse. It was bad enough that exit polls showed Ross Perot, the outside contender, would have won both the Republican and Democratic primaries in California on Tuesday. The unstoppable Texan billionaire capped that on Wednesday by hiring two top Republican and Democratic strategists, Ed Rollins and Hamilton Jordan. It lent instant weight and plausibility to a wildfire campaign that Washington's political establishment had sought to dismiss as a passing fad.

News of the defections left Mr Bush and an already demoralised White House "rattled" and "reeling", officials

admitted. Some feared that Mr Rollins's action would trigger a mass exodus of disaffected Republican activists to the Perot camp; others thought that he was taking with him detailed inside knowledge of Republican campaign plans.

The White House was reportedly bombarded with calls from frantic Republicans around the country demanding that it get its act together, and there was a renewed burst of speculation about important staff changes. The administration has denied reports that James Baker, the Secretary of State, will return to take control of the president's campaign, but the name of Richard Cheney, the defence secretary and a former White House chief of staff, is now being mentioned. The problem for Mr Bush is that any big shake-up now would look like "full-scale panic", one official said.

Writing in *The New York Times* yesterday, Kevin Phillips, a leading Republican analyst, said Mr Perot was emerging as the most serious outside contender for power

since the Republican party itself emerged in the 1850s. By attracting 35 to 45 per cent of Republican voters, he was "dividing — perhaps fatally — the Republican presidential coalition which has controlled the White House for 20 of 24 years".

Mr Rollins was Ronald Reagan's campaign manager in 1984 and Mr Jordan masterminded Jimmy Carter's presidential victory in 1976. Commentators pointed out that there are only seven men living who had managed presidential campaigns, and Mr Perot had snapped up two of them. In an election likened to playing "three-dimensional chess", their expertise could prove invaluable.

Democratic and Republican officials both criticised Mr Perot for hiring two "ultimate Washington insiders" while posing as an untainted outsider himself, but the White House has been reluctant to attack Mr Perot directly for fear of driving his supporters into Bill Clinton's camp. But there are signs of that strategy changing.

Prosecutor speaks of two Ivans

BY BEN LYNFIELD
IN JERUSALEM AND
OUR FOREIGN STAFF

MICHAEL Shaked, the Israeli state attorney on the defensive amid mounting doubts in the "Ivan the Terrible" appeal, suggested yesterday that two distinct Ivans operated the gas chambers at the Treblinka Nazi death camp.

The statement came as part of a package of theories put forward by Mr Shaked to explain why postwar testimonies by camp guards to Soviet interrogators identify Ivan Marchenko, not Ivan Demjanjuk, as operator of the gas chambers.

The physical descriptions of Marchenko by guards do not match Demjanjuk, a point emphasised by Yoram Sheftel, the defence attorney, when he opened the summary arguments. Demjanjuk, 72, a retired car worker from Cleveland, Ohio, was sentenced to death in 1988 for being "Ivan the Terrible" of Treblinka. The sentence was based on identification by camp survivors. "Ivan



High hopes: John Demjanjuk, the convicted Nazi war criminal, in cheerful mood at his Jerusalem appeal

Marchenko started to operate the gas chambers in the summer of 1942, while Demjanjuk began in October and continued through to the following March, either with Marchenko or without him," Mr Shaked said. After the war, Demjanjuk listed Marchenko as his mother's maiden name

while applying for an American visa. Mr Shaked noted. It is possible that Demjanjuk was indeed Ivan Marchenko, or else simply borrowed the name of his Treblinka colleague, he said. The conflicting theories touched off consternation among the judges, who tried, without success, to get

Mr Shaked to say which explanation he favoured. Demjanjuk, surrounded in the dock by police, looked on in characteristic bewilderment, shaking his head violently when it was said that he gassed Jews. Mr Sheftel expressed the hope that the pendulum was finally swinging the defence way after

nearly six years of deliberations. Ephraim Zurov, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Israel, said last night that the prosecution's failure to present documentary evidence that John Demjanjuk was "Ivan the Terrible" may have saved him from the gallows.

Zionist refuses to wave the flag

Teddy Kollek, Jerusalem's mayor, tells Richard Beeston that it is premature to celebrate the unification of the city

WHEN thousands of Israelis waving flags and chanting nationalist slogans marched through Jerusalem this week to mark the 25th anniversary of the city's capture, few of their compatriots remained unmoved by the memory of the crowning victory of the Six Day war.

However, as soldiers and schoolchildren paraded through the cobbled alleys of the Old City and politicians vied for attention on the city's ancient battlegrounds and at Judaism's holiest site, the Western Wall, one man was noticeably absent.

"I would like to have celebrations in Jerusalem but we have not reached that day yet," said Teddy Kollek, Jerusalem's mayor for 30 years, who more than any other Israeli has shaped today's modern metropolis. "We have to consider that this is not a day of celebration on the other side. This is not a day of festivity for the Arabs."

His objections are not born of doveish principles, but of the practical need to encourage co-existence in a city where even the most petty rivalry can explode into an international incident. The Viennese-born mayor is an ardent Zionist who, like the vast majority of Israelis, believes that Jerusalem should be the undivided, eternal capital of the Jewish state, while respecting the customs of its Arab minority.

"There will always be rivalries in Jerusalem," said the mayor, reflecting on the city's bloody 4,000-year history, from the time it was built by King David through its 18 conquests, including capture by General Edmund Allenby in 1917, to the present day. "When I first became mayor

in 1965, the city was divided between Ashkenazi (European) and Sephardi (Oriental) Jews. Then the differences were between secular and ultra-orthodox Jews and now it is between Jews and Arabs."

Mr Kollek, 81, bristled at any suggestions that the answer to his problem lies in the redivision of the city into Arab and Jewish halves or of placing Jerusalem under international jurisdiction. He is proud of his accomplishments and points out that under his stewardship a physically divided, economically depressed, and remote provincial town has blossomed into a modern city of half a million people.

However, that does not compensate for his disappointment, as he approaches his final months in office — he is expected to retire before his term expires next year — at the growing realisation that Jerusalem's stubborn rivalries are surviving his efforts.

In the neglected neighbourhoods of east Jerusalem, the 140,000-strong Arab population has been in a state of semi-revolt for more than four years. On what Mr Kollek remembers as his darkest day as mayor, 17 Palestinians were shot dead by Israeli police on the Dome of the Rock in October 1990.

Since then, tensions have been compounded by the rapid expansion of Jewish settlements in east Jerusalem, most noticeably in the Muslim quarter of the walled Old City and the Arab village of Silwan. With government support, the settlers are planning to construct large apartment blocks, next to Arab neighbours, a provocation which Mr Kollek regards as unnecessary and stupid.

New Yorkers put fun back into sex

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN NEW YORK

REAL sex fizzled in New York in the mid-1980s, driven out by Aids and the Reaganising of the 1960s generation, according to the experts. Since then, sex has been celebrated at arm's length, through Madonna, the new Voyeurism cable channel, films such as *Basic Instinct*, phone services and, for the higher-brow, "erotica".

But every pendulum must swing, and the time has come to proclaim that sex is back again in the Big Apple, according to the same experts. Lawyers and Wall Street men can be found streaming into Fantasy Manor, a Manhattan brothel, where girls play roles dictated by their well-heeled clients. Across the city, bordellos and private sex clubs are booming again, offering participatory fun for every taste, straight, gay or lesbian.

If you want to go to a dungeon and be mistreated, call Ava Tauriel, who teaches an evening class in fetishes and fancies at the Learning Annex. For those

who would prefer to visit a fully equipped dungeon, there is the Vault, a club on the Lower East Side which takes its name from one of the gay bath houses which flourished in the pre-Aids era and caters for the limousine crowd.

The new sex clubs have come in for scrutiny from trend experts who have chronicled a return to public naughtiness not seen since Studio 54, the legendary disco and sexual super-market that closed its doors in 1985. There is disagreement, however, on whether the sex revival is a symptom of New York's renaissance or its descent into deeper inquiry.

The city authorities, who have always been tolerant towards clubs and other sex businesses, have acknowledged a surge of activity but taken no measures. Aids activists say, however, that they are worried about a spreading view, particularly among heterosexual men, that the disease presents little real risk for them.

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By DAVID WATTS, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE Chinese government yesterday arrested two members of an illegal free trade union and banned a BBC correspondent from reporting the third anniversary of the mass killings in Tiananmen Square.

Two other members of the union were last night reported missing. Journalists have been beaten up and harassed as a further sign of the government's unease about renewed protests in favour of democracy.

The government has banned James Miles, the BBC's Peking correspondent, from reporting while his journalist's credentials are held by the authorities. Mr Miles's pass was taken by police on

May 4 and he has had no indication of when it will be returned. Mr Miles, who has reported from China for the BBC since 1988, was detained for more than five hours on April 30 after he covered a protest in Tiananmen Square by seven Europeans, including Robert Parry, a British MP.

The correspondent was later summoned to the foreign ministry for a "severe warning" and was accused of taking part in the demonstration, which he denies. He was warned again this week and told that by continuing to report he was complicating the foreign ministry's efforts to secure the return of his pass. A BBC spokesman said last night: "We are disappointed that the authorities have taken away James Miles's accreditation but we expect the matter to be resolved."

Police set up roadblocks for a second night around Peking University, the focus of the protests in 1989. Foreigners were prevented from going near the university, but it was reportedly quiet. Friends of the arrested men, whose Peking Workers Autonomous Federation was founded during the democracy movement and crushed with it, said that they had planned to gather quietly in a park to commemorate the crackdown.

The Associated Press news agency said Han Dongfang, 29, sometimes called China's Lesh Wales for his leading role in the union, was detained on Wednesday night while walking in Tiananmen Square. A friend said he was brought home yesterday but dozens of police guarded the building and barred visitors, apparently holding Han under house arrest.

Zhang Jinli, 35, was taken into custody on Tuesday night and police have refused to tell his family why he is being held. Zhou Guoqing and Qian Yumin were missing and believed under arrest, it was reported.

"They did not plan to cause any disturbance," one friend said. "They just were going to get together and talk among themselves."

● Hong Kong: Tens of thousands of people massed in a park last night to remember those killed in Tiananmen Square. Wreaths were laid at the foot of a replica of the Monument to Revolutionary Martyrs, which stands at the centre of the square in Peking and served as the headquarters for the student-led pro-democracy movement. (AP)

Khmer fire threatens UN team

FROM JAMES FRINGLE IN PHNOM PENH

THE United Nations peace mission to Cambodia was endangered yesterday as UN military observers on the ground came under fire from the Khmer Rouge for the first time.

A five-man team of UN military observers and an Australian signalman are trapped in the small town of Phum Kulen, 25 miles north-east of the Angkor Wat ruins, which foreign tourists now visit daily.

"This is the first time we have had an observation team in place from the onset of a ceasefire violation", said General Michel Lorrion, the French deputy commander of the military component of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia. He said that Khmer Rouge shells were hitting the town.

General Lorrion, during a meeting last night with the local Khmer Rouge commander, General Nuon Bunno, urged the Khmer Rouge not to fire on UN officers. Asked if the UN observer team at Phum Kulen would be pulled back, the general said that it would not.

Western diplomats were last night trying to work out whether the Khmer Rouge, under whose rule in the 1970s up to one million Cambodians were killed, were trying to torpedo the UN-brokered peace process or would "climb on board" at the last moment.

RIO NOTEBOOK by Mac Margolis

Briton hailed as rainforest hero

In the Amazon rainforest, a thousand miles north of this seaside city where the world's leaders are gathering to decide the fate of the planet, Oliver Henry Knowles was converted.

It was at a mining site on the Rio Trombetas, a river brown with silt that winds its way to the Amazon, the "river sea." The young British forester had long been fascinated by the world's largest "trunk" of tropical rainforest, but he had gone there not to marvel but to cut it down.

Then Mr Knowles had a change of heart. He left a sawmill for a tree nursery at a bauxite strip mining operation in the central Amazon. Acre by acre, he set to work repairing the damage done by man.

Mr Knowles will be admitted today, World Environment Day, to the Global 500, the roll of environmental crusaders chosen each year by the United Nations. Delegates from more than 150 nations will briefly set aside their differences to honour those who toil to mend the ecological misdeeds of society.

When Mr Knowles first arrived in the Amazon forest, conservation was about the last thing on his mind. He set up a sawmill on the Peruvian Amazon, in the Pucallpa region, deep in the heart of the Amazon. Three decades and countless lessons later, the Sussex-born lumberman was an experienced ecologist.

Indeed, Mr Knowles has been doing penance for those wayward logging days ever since, first as a forest management engi-

neer with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, and for the last 11 years as an ecological consultant to the Brazilian mining company Mineração Rio do Norte.

As settlers, cattlemen, and mining moguls have invaded the vast rainforest, a handful of foresters have taken care to replant it, and so turn the precious tropical woods into a renewable resource.

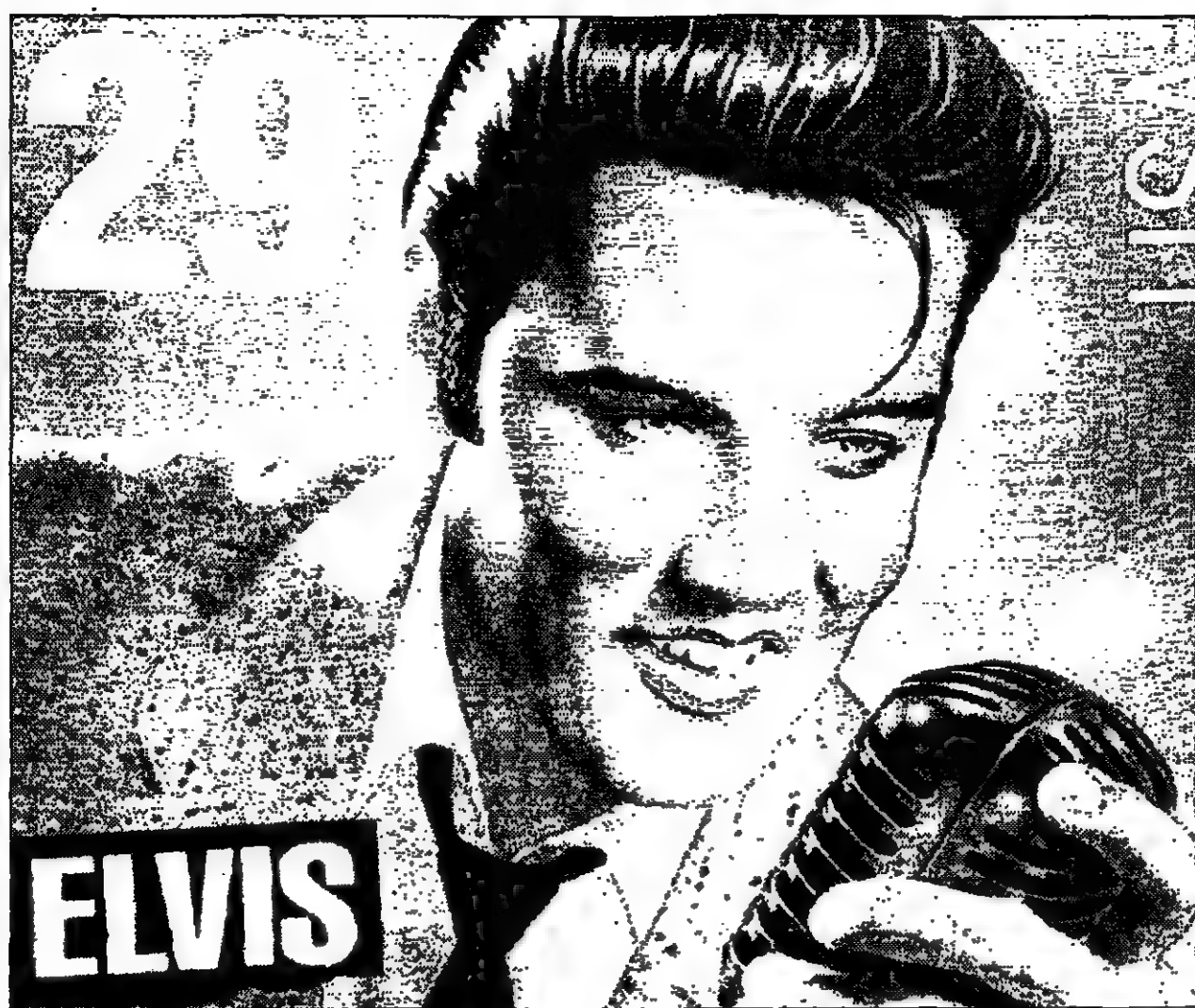
Mr Knowles treks over the mining province, replanting the forests that have been torn up by giant earth-moving machines. For here, under the jungles of the far north of Brazil, lie giant reserves of bauxite, the ore from which aluminium is made.

"Somewhere in Genesis," he says, "there's a phrase that goes something like, 'God made man to be master over everything in the universe.' Man is only one small part of this world."

Mr Knowles's job has also given him a unique opportunity: a giant laboratory to test his theories of forest regeneration in the tropics. He has identified 1,086 species of trees, written two forthcoming books on Amazonian flora, and replanted more than 1,200 acres of deforested land.

"I shudder to think about some of the books I wrote on logging," said Mr Knowles, looking back on his past. "But I guess it makes sense. To be a good policeman you have to have been a good thief."

Summit proceeds, page 1



Stamp of approval: a picture of the young Elvis Presley chosen by Americans for a 29-cent postage stamp. Voters favoured it over one of the older Elvis by a majority of three to one. More than a million votes were cast. The stamp will be issued on January 8, the anniversary of Presley's birth. He would have been 58.

Pregnant man will get maternity leave

Edwin Bayron, a Filipino hermaphrodite who is nearly seven months pregnant, will get maternity leave like any ordinary female employee, the Philippines health secretary, Antonio Periquet, said.

Mr Bayron, 32, popularly known as Carlo, will be given 45 days' leave as soon as he gives birth in August and will receive his full salary as a government hospital nurse, Mr Periquet said.

Mr Bayron, born with both male and female reproductive organs, is officially a man but had an operation in 1988 which enabled him to conceive. The father of the child lives with him.

Amos Oz, the Israeli author and co-founder of the Peace Now movement, has been awarded the German book trade's prestigious peace prize for his "fight against fanaticism, violence and indifference".

The Greek government has settled debts owed by the former royal family to the state since 1961, the national economy ministry said. King Constantine, who fled into

exile with his family in 1967, owed £1.8 million in unpaid taxes and accumulated interest, it said.

Crowds of mourners thronged Ayatollah Khomeini's golden-domed tomb in Tehran, beating their breasts and wailing to mark the third anniversary of the death of Iran's revolutionary leader.

Singers Paul Simon, 50, and Edie Brickell, 25, have married in a private ceremony in Montauk on Long Island, New York.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman, Yassir Arafat, is in "excellent condition" after surgery to remove a cerebral blood clot, and should leave hospital this weekend to convalesce.

Princess Stephanie of Monaco told the French magazine *Paris Match* she will have a baby in November, name the child Jonathan and marry her former bodyguard, Daniel Ducruet, after the birth.

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Tories primed for revolt

Party unity has been fractured by the Danish vote, says Peter Riddell

On Tuesday evening, after news broke of the Danish vote against the Maastricht treaty, the Tory whips still intended to go ahead with the committee stage of the ratification bill the following afternoon. Twelve hours later, they had to abandon this plan in face of a probable fracas in the Commons floor. By last night even pro-European MPs were questioning whether the bill could be revived in its present form. The Tories are in deep trouble over Europe.

John Major faces his stiffest test as a party manager since becoming prime minister. His options are limited, as shown by his insistence on pressing on with the Maastricht deal. But the political balance has shifted. The carefully nurtured support of most Tory MPs in three Commons votes since last November is in danger of eroding. One experienced minister said he had been surprised by the extent, and source, of the dissent. Europe has been the most divisive issue for the Tories since the 1960s. The whips have had to balance certain rebellion by a hard core of Tory MPs with the hope of securing support from pro-European opposition MPs.

In 1971 Edward Heath debated at length whether to have a free vote. In the event, while some 39 Tories voted against, the terms of entry were approved by a majority of 112, thanks to the support of 69 Labour MPs. Later revolts have been smaller, but the whips have had to work hard to minimise the number of rebels.

Mr Major and Richard Ryder, his shrewd chief whip, face the dilemma of how to persuade reluctant MPs to remain loyal in spite of their instincts. The people who matter are not the diehards, such as Teddy Taylor, Michael Spicer and John Biffen, who dislike Brussels and will never support such a bill. As I argued in this column two weeks ago, much more important is the genuine scepticism of a wider range of MPs. They suspect anything with a Jacques Delors approval label. Until now they have been loyal because they back Mr Major's judgment and splits might have been disastrous ahead of the election.

But these constraints no longer apply. If the Danes reject the treaty, and the Germans have doubts about monetary union, why should we carry on with the pretence of support? The most striking comment in the Commons came from George Walden, not least because of his pro-European background as a former head of policy planning at the Foreign Office. He said the Maastricht treaty had not been wanted by ministers, by the House or by the country; the government seemed rightly more proud of its amendments than of the treaty itself, which should be put on the back burner. Senior Tories such as Sir Peter Horden agree that the treaty should be looked at again.

A WEEK IN POLITICS

and that mood was behind the widely supported motion calling for a "fresh start".

This reaction is partly the usual fevered response to the unexpected. In time, temperatures will cool and the whips yesterday were warning new MPs not to undermine Mr Major ahead of the British presidency of the EC. But MPs' support will be conditional. They will want proof that Maastricht has reversed the trend towards centralisation.

Mr Major has only two broad options: first, publicly acknowledging that the Maastricht deal is dead and to begin again (as favoured by many Tory MPs); and, second, trying to make the best of the present messy situation. As they met in Oslo yesterday, all EC foreign ministers rejected renegotiation. The danger, as Douglas Hurd has warned, is that Britain might lose what it gained at Maastricht, such as strengthened inter-governmental cooperation in foreign affairs and law and order. British hopes for enlargement and securing its budget would be jeopardised.

'John Major faces his stiffest test as a party manager since becoming prime minister'

He told MPs that the EC should not "slam the door" on Denmark, as some countries suggest, by excluding it from the treaty. Britain favours a more conciliatory approach, possibly meeting Danish concerns through a protocol to the treaty. The other EC members also have to show they will ratify the treaty, starting with the Irish referendum on June 18. Until this is clarified, there is no point in going ahead with the committee stage, especially as many Labour MPs are uneasy about the party's pro-European line and want to take advantage of the Tories' predicament.

In the present restive mood, an adverse decision on proposals for the 48-hour week at a meeting on June 24 could be disastrous for Mr Major's policy, as could an EC insistence that Britain scrap its frontier controls. Nothing would do more to reassure the Tory doubters than a decision not to reappoint M Delors. He has become as much of a bogey for Tory MPs as Arthur Scargill was. His head might guarantee passage of the Maastricht bill. But there are no other candidates yet.

The EC has survived similar upsets in the past, as Mr Major said, "one generally finds that all things are possible in due course". With the instincts of a former whip, Mr Major knows that more than treaty legalities are at stake. To keep his party loyal, he must show he realises the mood has changed: that the EC has to develop in a more diverse and flexible way.

Televised reconstructions of a daughter's killing reawaken grief, writes Diana Lamplugh

Thrice murdered



Rachel McLean: exploitation?

Joan McLean and I share unenviable experiences. We have both lost a daughter, not once, not twice but three times: first when declared missing, then murdered and finally, when all we have left our memories, these are swept away by the media.

My heart stopped still when I heard Mrs McLean on Radio 4 speak about the clip she had briefly seen of the episode of London Weekend Television's *True Crimes* about her daughter Rachel's horrific murder by her boyfriend while she was studying at Oxford. (At the request of the principal of St Hilda's College, Oxford, LWT have agreed to postpone the film, which was to have been shown tomorrow, while the students are taking exams.)

"Thames Valley Police wrote to us to say the film was just about the police case and how it was run. But it wasn't a bit like I thought it would be," said Mrs McLean. The bewilderment, loss and pain in her voice exposed a raw nerve I had not realised I still possessed.

I remember my second daughter Tamsin and I reading the first draft of a book written about Suzy's case together. We both felt and were physically ill. We read on

with growing distress and disbelief. This wasn't Suzy, this wasn't the lovely kind, enthusiastic, demanding, fun and totally alive person we knew. The appalling thing was that we began to believe the book too. This was the written word. We had trusted the author. People do not kick those who are down.

We did not then understand the laws of libel: that it was quite simply no crime at all to say anything, write anything, portray anything about a person who is dead or presumed to be dead. There is no moratorium for the recently deceased as there is on the Continent. The bereaved cannot speak up on their behalf.

And because something is written under the guise of respectability or shown on a reputable TV programme, in a short space of time, to our deep distress, everything can be obliterated and substituted by a sham. Why do they do it? Why do authors, networks, the media in general,

relatives) are sticklers for the truth. The age, the time, the place, the clothes, walk, hair — if any precious detail is wrong it will cause offence. So do the innuendo and speculation, the filling in of gaps, the "what might have been". Above all, the insistence on stereotyping, the careless shorthand of the written word, the kaleidoscoped film scenes, all gradually add up to unreality.

When I spoke to Mrs McLean yesterday morning she said she was not going to watch the LWT film "because a film cannot help but expand on our imagination and once those pictures are in your mind you'll never get rid of them," and secondly, "there will be speculation, no one knows the absolute truth, and the bits they put in are likely to be the ones retained by the viewer as facts."

I know she is right; we have been there and suffered too. And there is also the guilt. We had both agreed in the first place to let the project go ahead. In the case of the

McLeans, the Thames Valley police had asked if a film could be made. They agreed because they had not felt the criticism of the force to be justified and wanted the record put straight. We agreed because we hoped the book might help others facing trauma and highlight the need for employers to protect employees. The one common denominator I have found I share with others who have suffered a similar tragedy is a burning desire to wrench some good out of evil.

We had of course both been naive, and furthermore our disputes highlighted the film and the book, meaning higher ratings, more sales. However, I do not really believe that we are only a nation of voyeurs, enjoying our own fear like a horror movie. As I travel the country I meet real people to whom aggression and violence is a growing concern, presenting and needing realistic answers. Working from facts rather than fiction I meet with enthusiastic responses. However, I believe media portrayal of such events should be done with infinite care.

The author is director of the *Suey Lamplugh Trust*.

The accidental tourist

Daniel Johnson on the travel agent who changed the world



Old habits die hard. When in Thomas Mann's *Death in Venice* Gustav von Aschenbach suspects that the Venetian authorities are suppressing news of the spread of a cholera epidemic he turns to "the English travel bureau in the Piazza". There he encounters a tweed-dressed clerk who exhibits "that steady reliability" which any upper-class German tourist in 1911 would have expected from the firm of Thomas Cook & Son. After offering the official explanation for the disinfection of the streets, the clerk lowers his voice and tells Aschenbach the truth.

Long after Cook's Tours have ceased to resonate in the English imagination, Germans (now the world's busiest tourists) remember the name.

The firm of Thomas Cook & Son is part of that emotional baggage of empire with which the British do not willingly part. Its sale to a German bank, after 150 years of flying the flag, is bound to be a wrench. Rather than dwell on the melancholy symbolism of such a Teutonic takeover, however, it is better to remember all the blessings of tourism which the name of Cook once meant to a nation of stay-at-homes.

Even in 1939, according to A.J.P. Taylor, less than half the population left home for a single night in the year. A century earlier, foreign travel for pleasure was still the exclusive preserve of the wealthy. Thomas Cook, the Derbyshire "labourer's son", invented "tourism" on a wave of Victorian self-cultivation. The initial impetus for this, as far so much else, came from the temperance movement: Cook was a primer by trade; he issued half a million pamphlets against alcohol abuse and opened two temperance hotels before he turned to organising excursions for teetotalers in 1841.

The success of his early, very modest, day-trips caused this quintessential entrepreneur to conceive his big idea: that "the newly developed power and facilities of railways and locomotion [should be] subservient to the advancement of the high interests of social brotherhood and moral-

ity". Thomas Cook also made a great deal of money out his tours, of course, but his chief motive always remained altruistic — so, at any rate, thought his son John, who considered his father altogether too uncommercial.

The Cooks grasped that the British, an insular race, needed above all to be reassured that they would be in safe hands once they stepped off the boat into the unknown. Cook therefore invented hotel and railway vouchers, which later developed into the traveller's cheque, to minimise the chance of tourists being cheated or thrown into confusion by the need to obtain foreign exchange.

They succeeded in tapping the specifically British desire to be exposed to alien cultures while cocooned in comforting reminders of their own. "We may live without books," wrote the viceroy of India,

Lord Lytton, "but civilized man cannot live without Cooks."

Above all, Cook understood that the British needed their creature comforts. The history of the firm by Piers Brendon, published last year, quotes a young woman schoolteacher who recorded the menu laid on by Cook for his tourists at a dinner in Paris in 1855: "Soup, fried eel, beef, brocoli [sic] and potatoes, veal, chicken, mutton, duck, peas, chicken again, tongue, salad, strawberry tart, brandy pudding, strawberries, cherries, sweetmeats, and to finish up a little dish of toothpicks! made of small quills."

It worked. By 1868, Thomas Cook had taken two million people abroad: a prodigious number, ranging, as he boasted, from "the heir to the throne to the humblest greengrocer". But the two extremes did not always get on. On one his most popular excursions

down the Nile in 1869, Cook found his two steamers close behind the Prince of Wales's fleet of six ships — equipped with 3,000 bottles of champagne and 4,000 of claret. William Howard Johnson, war correspondent of *The Times*, was with the royal party; he later wrote scathingly about the "respectable people — worthy — intelligent — whatever you please, but all thrown off their balance by the prospect of running the Prince or Princess of Wales to earth in a Pyramid..."

Cook & Son originally catered for the Victorian professional and commercial middle classes. At the turn of the century, these groups were being hugely augmented from the lower middle class. The clerks — Messrs Potter and Polly, Forster's Leonard Bast and Jerome K. Jerome's three men in a boat — lived on £100 per annum, so could not afford cruises down

the Nile. But even they could hope to save up for Cook's next great innovation: "Independent Inclusive Travel", nowadays known as the package holiday.

The decline of the firm of Cook follows a well known pattern: a brilliant founder, an enterprising, competent grandsons and then — disaster. By the 1920s the name of the game was expansion into new markets: working class holiday-makers were making an appearance, though it was not until 1936 that Billy Butlin cashed in on the new wave and opened the first of his holiday camps.

But the grandsons of Thomas Cook were deaf to these aspirations. In 1924 came hubris when they moved into a spectacular new Mayfair office (still the firm's HQ) known as "the Temple of Travel". Four years later came nemesis, when they sold the firm to the Belgian company of Wagons-Lits.

Cook survived the second world war only as an adjunct of the state, and in 1948 was formally nationalised along with the railways. The next few decades saw stagnation under the dead hand of the state, until in 1972 the Tories' first timid step towards privatisation saw Cook sold to the Midland Bank. As a small branch of a vast corporation Cook has failed to capitalise on its name.

The whole saga is an object lesson in the superiority of individual enterprise over collective bureaucracy. But it is also an inspiring example of the power of an idea — the idea of mass tourism — over inertia and corruption. However much intellectuals may deplore the incursions of the populace into places which were once the preserve of the few, they too have gained from the experience. But for Cook's clerk in the Venice office, for example, Thomas Mann might well have stayed on in his hotel, succumbed to cholera and never written *Death in Venice*. Thomas Cook & Son may now be one travel agents among many, but the idea which the firm once embodied has succeeded beyond the wildest dreams of a Derbyshire teetotaler.



...and moreover ALAN COREN

It is only fair to warn those of you about to embark on today's farrago that very little will come to it. You will disembark, I fear, complaining of an absolutely bloody ghastly trip, the silly fool not only took the long way round, he kept getting lost, and God knows where he dropped me, the middle of nowhere. I shall almost certainly write a strong letter to Hackney Scribble Office. I do not pay good money to...

I know all this because I myself have just embarked upon it, as you can see, and I have to tell you that conditions up ahead are extremely murky. Visibility is down to less than 50 words. Were I an ornithologist, of course, I should be able to see 800 in front of me with no problem at all, but regular readers may recall that when it comes to birds there can be few undubder hands than I, who once sat in a nocturnal garden and managed, thanks to *The Observer's Book of Birds*, to identify every single call from the osprey to the twite, even though none of these had ever flown within 100 miles of Cricklewood.

Well, I am back among them now, even more closely than last time, since I am three floors up, typing in the roof in front of an open window beyond which they are all going hammer and tongs, for it is 6am and that is what they habitually do at 6am. Typing is now what I habitually do at 6am, but today is the first day of the Edgbaston Test, and if I want to settle down for the first

ball bowled, all has to be done, dusted and faxed by 11 o'clock, which is why I got up at 4am. This, however, is not the piece I was going to write at 4am, that piece was going to be about Europe, because I had just watched the 4am news and the word "Maastricht" had appeared on the screen above a digest of the treaty's cruces, forcing me to wonder if we were really ready for federalism if we couldn't even spell the word that was supposed to inaugurate it, a reflection that naturally led me on to the general mysteries of Dutch and whether it might be cognate with Scots, given that the Dutch word for motorway exit was *wingang*, and I was getting along nicely with all this, as my wastebin would testify, when suddenly, it must have been 5.30, the dawn chorus stopped. Absolute silence.

Except for one sound, a 747 was flying, very low. I looked out and noticed that the birds on the chimneys were looking up. As I say, an ornithologist would know right off what was going on, but I didn't even know how far a starting, or possibly an osprey, could see. Their eyesight must be reasonable, given that they can spot a worm from 50 yards, but how good was it over pointless, non-dietary distances like 2,000 feet?

And if it was that good, what was it about a jumbo jet that made them all unanimously silent? I have been in many a twittering garden when planes flew over, but the birdsong had never stopped before, so it

cannot have been fear that stopped it now. It occurred to me that it might have been envy, but why would a bird envy an airliner, a bird does not have to fly to New York and back every day with 400 people inside it queuing for the lavatory and complaining about the film?

No, the key must be that they were in the middle of the dawn chorus when the jet overflew, so the moment must be significant. Little as I know about birds, I have nevertheless heard it murmured by experts that the dawn chorus is something of a mystery, could be territorial declaration but we're not putting folding money on it, so I'm prepared to take a flyer, especially as, if it were territorial, you wouldn't suddenly shut up when a plane came over, the last thing you would want would be to encourage a 747 to land, think of the worms a thing that size might get through, never mind its nesting requisites, there wouldn't be a decent twig left between Cricklewood and the coast. My conclusion? The dawn chorus must be a religious ceremony, a liturgical aubade to propitiate the gods, and when one of them turns up to acknowledge it, the smart bird shuts its beak and gazes upwards in silent veneration. Or perhaps not, this may need more thought, but any moment now the umpires will emerge, I shall just switch on and, oh look, it's teeming.

Maybe I shouldn't have carried on typing when the god flew over.

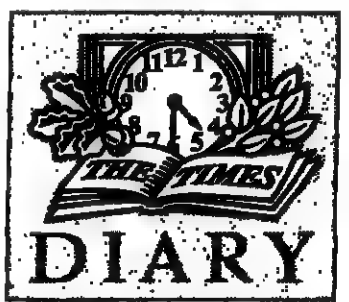
Let's all go to Denmark

RESURGENT after the Danish vote, Europe's anti-federalists, who are not meant to believe in such things, appear to have constructed a network of European co-operation that is the envy of their shellshocked rivals in Brussels. While the triumphant Danish doubters are flying to Dublin this weekend to bolster the Irish "no" campaign, Britain's Euro-sceptics are off to Copenhagen to thank the Danes personally.

Sir Richard Body, the only Tory MP to go to Denmark to help the *nej* campaign, will be joined by Sir Teddy Taylor, Michael Spicer, Richard Shepherd, Christopher Gill and others, all of whom want to make clear their gratitude. "There is great enthusiasm for the trip and I think about 20 MPs will go," says Body. A seat has been reserved on the plane for Britain's best known anti-federalist. "The Danes would be delighted if Mrs Thatcher comes with us."

But the British MPs may find those they plan to thank are already hard at work in Ireland. The Denmark 92 group, which devised the *Ja to Europe*, *Nej to the Union* slogan has been asked by the anti-Maastricht campaigners in Dublin to help devise an equally punchy phrase for the Irish cause. Members of Copenhagen's Anti-European Movement are also flying to Dublin this weekend. Ola Sohn, one of the leaders, says: "We have learnt much which we can put to good effect in both Ireland and France."

The Tory rebels, who met at the Carlton Club to plan their opposition to Maastricht, will return to the club for a celebration breakfast before their flight to Copenhagen. Danish bacon followed by Danish pastries, naturally.



● An awkward moment in the Commons terrace bar on Wednesday night when John Major turned up to celebrate the 50th birthday of his PPS Graham Bright. Alan Duncan, the new MP for Rutland and Melton, whose house in Gayfers Street was used as the headquarters of Major's leadership campaign, was in the act of signing the critical Maastricht motion when he was spotted by Major and Gus O'Donnell, his press secretary. The paper disappeared behind his back as they made a beeline for him.

Ready, get set

ST AUGUSTINE, the patron saint of printers, will be working overtime today. He is being called on to oversee an attempt to break the world speed record for printing a book. Scriptmate Editions of Clerkenwell is hoping to beat its own record of 12 hours 26 minutes set in 1989 with Sir Frederick Mason's *Ropley Post and Present*. The book this time is *William and his Adventures*, a children's tale by Margrit Dunster. It is hoped the feat will raise £2 million for the Royal Marsden Hospital appeal, which wants 100 printed hardback copies available for auction at its charity ball tonight.

"The attempt is being very closely invigilated. We are hoping

to come in at under 12 hours," says Ann Kritzinger of Scriptmate. As it is all in such a good cause it would be churlish to point out that broadsheet newspapers, which contain at least as many words as the average modern novel, meet even tougher deadlines on a daily basis.

● Having been spurned by Richard Nixon for the two decades since *Watergate*, The Washington Post finally thought it had caught up with the former president in Moscow this week. Nixon, in Russia as honorary president of the Fund for Democracy and Development, was due to meet journalists, including the man from the Post, in Red Square. After keeping them waiting for more than an hour a message came through. Nixon couldn't make it. "It was Tricky Dicky's revenge," said one left kicking his heels. "He can't forget and he will never forgive Carl and Bob."

Caught out

GRAHAM GOOCH'S England side were ruing the absence of the team chaplain, the Rev Andrew Wingfield-Digby, from the first Test at Edgbaston yesterday. A



former Dorset captain, Wingfield-Digby was away captaining the Church of England Clergy team in their debut fixture against the Oxford Authentics (the university second XI).

"This is the first time I have been absent from the start of an England game," he says. "Any team I am involved with wins. Whether his absence had a detrimental effect on England's performance the rain prevented us from discovering, but the chaplain should be back with his cricketing flock in Birmingham today. In the event of a poor England performance, the Church of England Newspaper, which sponsored yesterday's C of E match, asserts that "calls for the inclusion of members of the clerical team in the England XI will undoubtedly ring out from the pulpits of the land".

Pas d'un

THE POWER struggle at English National Ballet has claimed another casualty. Lucia Truglia, principal of the company's ballet school, has resigned over "differences in policy" with Ivan Nagy, artistic director. She will be succeeded by Kathryn Wade, a former soloist with the Royal Ballet.

It is the second high-profile departure since Pamela, Lady Harlech, became chairman of the company at the end of 1989. Harlech, who declines to comment, sacked Peter Schaufuss, the artistic director, less than one month after her appointment. Yet if Schaufuss's departure was dramatic, he enjoyed sweet and swift revenge. Within 24 hours he was hired as artistic director to the Deutsche Oper Ballet in Berlin, taking 15 dancers with him. There is talk of Truglia following them. Lady Harlech will be hoping there is not a repeat performance.

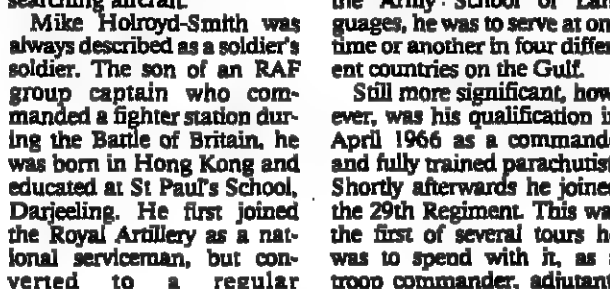
ALBERT SARFATI

His father was a diplomat, but Sarfari liked to hint at obscure and even disreputable beginnings. He allowed it

two daughters who were their father's special pride. The three of them are intending to continue with the family business.

Yesterday evening at the Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies before they attended Beating Retreat on Horse Guards Parade.

BRIG MICHAEL HOLROYD-SMITH



On the other hand he was sometimes lucky. In 1969 he escaped with his life, while serving with 29 Regiment in Singapore, when he was in a helicopter which crashed in dense jungle in the Malayan mountains. The wrecked helicopter landed upside down in

October 1. Matthias Ludwig Twardo,
Fry's Dipi (Charles and Katherine
Darwin Research Fellow in Physics);
Annalisa Celotti, Magr Phil (Astron-
omy); Dyfed Lloyd Evans, PhD (Clinical
Medicine); Edward Neil Grotche Marsh,
PhD (Biocentrality); Stephen John
Renals, PhD (Computer Science); Abi-
gail Jane Seelen, PhD (Psychology).
David Alan White, BSc. (Astronomy).

A scion of the Rosenwald family which built Sears Roebuck and Company into one of America's largest retail chains, Stern grew up as an iconoclast who directed millions of dollars from a family charity to groups trying to end poverty and promote social change. He founded two political organisations in the mid-1980's: Citizens Against PACs and the Campaign Re-



His spell in government convinced Stern that he could promote more change from outside, and he spent the next 30 years as a writer and philanthropist, publishing six books and dozens of articles for leading publications.

Philip Stern is survived by his former wife, three sons and two daughters.

berries, too cold and busy trying to find food to sing. Only on the last two days of the month do they find their voices; and no

University news

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PhD (Biocentrality); Stephen John
Renals, PhD (Computer Science); Abi-
gail Jane Seelen, PhD (Psychology).
David Alan White, BSc. (Astronomy).

Anniversaries

Deacon, Wilmslow (Chesten): retired as from April 30.
The Rev Canon Geoffrey Richens: Vicar, St Paul, Skelmersdale, an Honorary Canon of Liverpool (Liverpool): to retire as from January 31, 1993.

Birthdays

The following have been elected officers of the Turners' Company for the ensuing year: Master, M. E.W. Sawney; Upper Wardens, Mr P.F.W. Venn; Renter Wardens, Mr A.C. Hamilton.

month of May of
ous sunshine and

the migrant warblers came through the woods and shrubbery, too cold and busy trying to find food to sing. Only on the last two days of the month did they find their voices; and now

Reception

Royal Society of St George
Mr John Minshull-Fogg, Chairman of the Royal Society of St George, and Dr Peter Hardwick, Chairman of the City of London branch, received the members and guests at a reception held yesterday evening at the Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies before they attended Beating Retreat on Horse Guards Parade.

Appointments

Appointments

Mr Jack Baer, managing director of Hazlin, Gooden & Fox, to be a member of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art.

Mr Piers Merchant, M.P. to be Parliamentary Private Secretary to Mr Peter Lilley, Secretary of State for Social Security.

Cambridge Elections

DARWIN COLLEGE
Elected into research fellowships from
October 1. Matthias Ludwig Tewardt.
Frys Dipi (Charles and Katharine
Darwin Research Fellow in Physics);
Annalisa Celotti, Magr Phil (Astronomy);
Dyfed Lloyd Evans, PhD (Clinical
Medicine); Edward Neil Grotche Marsh,
PhD (Biochemistry); Stephen John
Renais, PhD (Computer Science); Abigail
Jane Seelen, PhD (Psychology).
David Alan White, BSc. (Astronomy).

Dr K Roberts:
research into
specialisation

Professor J Pass: £99,360 from the EC for computer aided movement analysis in a rehabilitation context.

Electronic & electrical engineering

Dr A McEwen: £154,700 from the EC for transport transfer processing and interpretation of 3D NDT data.

Marketing

Professor S Shaw: £151,781 from Safeway for research into opportunities for British food suppliers.

Church Retirement

The Rev Pauline Pullen, Paris Deacon, Wilmslow (Cheshire): retired as from April 30.
The Rev Canon Geoffrey Riches, Vicar, St Paul, Skelmersdale, and Honorary Canon of Liverpool (Liverpool): to retire as from January 31, 1993.

77: Vice-Admiral Sir
son, 56.

Turners' Company. The following have been elected officers of the Turners' Company for the ensuing year: Master, M. E.W. Sawney; Upper Wardens, Mr P.F.W. Venn; Renter Wardens, Mr A.C. Hamilton.

In the last day
when the wind

rang of snow in it, the earliest of the migrant warblers came through the woods and shrubberies, too cold and busy trying to find food to sing. Only on the last two days of the month did they find their voices; and now

Merger seen as anti-competitive

EC opposes Nestlé takeover of Perrier

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

SIR Leon Brittan's merger task force in Brussels has sent a "provisional conclusion" to Nestlé warning the Swiss food group that its £15 billion takeover of Source Perrier contravenes EC competition laws.

Nestlé believed that it could squeeze the deal, the biggest reshuffle in the French food and water market ever, past the European Commission by selling Volvic, one of Perrier's leading still water brands, to BSN, its rival in the French market. However, the commission believes Nestlé has only managed to transform what would have been a monopoly into a duopoly that restricts competition in the market place just as much.

The merger of Nestlé and Perrier is a significant obstacle to the maintenance of effective competition in the French market, a letter sent by the commission to Nestlé's headquarters on May 4 said.

The letter criticised the "parallel anti-competitive behaviour" of Nestlé and BSN. The letter was leaked to a French business daily. Sir Leon's spokesman refused to give any comment on the leak.

According to the letter, the commission estimates that Nestlé, with Perrier on board, holds 60 per cent of the French sparkling water market in terms of sales. For both the sparkling and still waters market it holds 36.8 per cent, with BSN holding 30.9.

Sources close to Nestlé say Serge Milhau, chairman of the mineral waters division, met merger task force officials and lawyers of both BSN and Nestlé on May 25. Nestlé contests that the commission is focusing too narrowly on the French market and should be concentrating on the whole EC market; it also claims the mergers task force is not competent to investigate duopolies.

The commission launched its enquiry into the takeover in late March, and must come up with a final ruling before the end of next month. French analysts point out that in the food and drink sector, it is unusual for a group of two or three companies not to have some form of dominance in a national market.

M Milhau has said in the French press that market share should be calculated not in terms of sales but volumes sold: were this done, he claims Nestlé would have 14.3 per cent of the EC market.

Commission sources say that claiming the merger task force can only rule on monopolies is nonsensical. However, the commission's unwinding of the deal would cause numerous problems.

Shares in Perrier have been suspended during the enquiry, and although Nestlé technically owns nearly 97 per cent it can have no say at the Perrier annual meeting at the end of this month because of the enquiry.

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Cost savings reflected: Alan Smith of Anglian

Anglian payout surges

BY GRAHAM SEARJEANT

ANGLIAN Water pleased the stock market by raising its final dividend by 11.1 per cent, making a 10.3 per cent rise to 19.3p for the year. Alan Smith, the managing director, said this was the first time that Anglian has raised its dividend by more than assumed in its price limits. The rise reflected cost savings and Anglian said the extra dividend costs were only about a fifth of the value to consumers of the group voluntarily keeping its price rise 0.5 per cent below that permitted.

In the year to end March, pre-tax profits rose by 12.3 per cent to £171.3 million on turnover of £523 million, up 13.6 per cent, against last year's price rises of 15.2 per cent. The shares rose 8p to 437p.

Capital spending increased to £295 million, on budget, and is planned to rise to £345 million this year. The group has so far avoided hosepipe bans mainly due to completion of an accelerated £25 million programme to link water supplies and sink new boreholes to combat the drought.

Times, page 22

Morland promises to increase estate size

MORLAND, the brewer based in Abingdon, Oxfordshire which is under £104 million assault from Greene King, the East Anglian group, is promising shareholders a "significant increase" in the size of its public house estate in the near future. The promise is believed to refer to talks with one of the big brewers over the purchase or lease of a substantial public house chain. Morland bought 101 Thames Valley houses from Courage a year ago, of which 90 have been retained and the rest sold at above book value.

The company is also promising "a series of significant new distribution deals" to boost sales of its brands, which include Old Speckled Hen. The promises come in the formal defence document to the bid. Sir Humphrey Pridemore, the chairman, claims Greene King is deliberately avoiding giving a profits estimate for the financial year just ended because trading over the key Christmas period had been very disappointing.

Rowlinson advances

ROWLINSON Securities, a property group noted for its caution, had rental income that was almost double its interest payments in the year to March. Pre-tax profits were £631,000, up from £93,000. The final dividend of 1.11p makes an unchanged 1.35p. Peter Rowlinson, chairman, said the increase in rental income was continuing; the rent roll had reached £3.3 million. Borrowings fell to £14.69 million from £15.34 million a year previously.

URS group halves loss

URS International, the American professional services group quoted on the London Stock Exchange, more than halved its pre-tax loss to \$1.09 million from \$2.42 million in the year to December. The dividend is again passed. Loan notes issued last year may be converted into ordinary shares. Sandy Saunders, chairman, said the loss reflected difficulties in disposing of a number of subsidiary operations and rationalising administration.

600 Group improves

MACHINE tool sales were at record lows for the second successive year, said Dr Colin Gaskell, managing director of The 600 Group. Despite an exceptional credit of £3.3 million, the group made a pre-tax loss of £534,000 in the year to March. The previous year's loss was £650,000 after an exceptional debit of £1.5 million. A 1.59 final makes an unchanged 2.5p total. Dr Gaskell said: "We have maintained margins, cut costs and generated £15 million."

HK accountant jailed

CHOI Hon-kwan, 32, an accountant with Peat Marwick in Hong Kong, was jailed for four years for stealing more than US \$1 million from the collapsed local unit of Bank of Credit and Commerce International to feed his gambling obsession. Choi forged cheques worth HK \$9.2 million (US \$1.2 million) while he was assistant manager at Peat Marwick's insolvency department. He pleaded guilty to 12 charges and has returned HK \$2.8 million of the money.

Boeing \$2bn contract

BOEING Corporation of America has won a \$2 billion contract to supply Emirates Airlines, which is based in Dubai, with up to 14 Boeing 777s powered by Rolls-Royce engines. The airline intends to expand its network to span the globe. The total value included firm orders for seven Boeing 777s, options for seven more and 36 Rolls-Royce RB211 Trent 800 engines, including eight spares, the companies said.

C&W Russian venture

CABLE and Wireless has agreed to buy a minority stake in Sovam Teleport, a joint venture in Moscow, and will invest up to \$4 million to help the company expand its international service. Sovam, set up in 1989 by Moscow's Institute for Automated Systems and the San Francisco/Moscow Teleport Inc, says it is trading profitably. C&W is already involved in three joint ventures in the former Soviet Union.

Brent Walker pub deal

PUBMASTER, Brent Walker's public house retailing division, is leasing 174 public houses from Whitbread. The deal brings Pubmaster's estate to nearly 2,000 public houses. Pubmaster's goal is 2,500 public houses by the end of the year. Whitbread, along with other brewers, has been forced to lease or sell off public houses to meet new regulations on loosening the ties between brewers and public houses. Brent Walker gave no price for the deal.

Richmond loses 90% of revenue

BY MARTIN BARROW

RICHMOND Oil and Gas, a troubled American natural resources company, has again shocked shareholders by revealing that Johnson Ranch Partners has foreclosed the company's interest in Texas property that accounts for about 90 per cent of its revenue.

The effect will be to reduce Richmond's assets by about £37 million. At the end of March, the company stated net assets at £49.7 million.

Richmond said the value of its interest in Johnson Ranch, Texas, in the open market had fallen below the debt against which it was secured because of depressed gas prices. Directors described the company's prospects as "good", however.

It has not been possible to complete the sale of San Juan Basin coalbed methane properties, announced last September, before the expiry of the contract because of a lawsuit brought by the Ute Indian tribe against owners of coalbed methane properties on tribal lands. Of the expected total consideration of \$20 million, \$12.6 million was received before the contract expired. Settlement of the lawsuit has been agreed and discussions with potential purchasers of the balance of the properties are taking place.

Dividend returns at KLM

BY OUR CITY STAFF

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines surprised analysts by returning to the dividend list. It said a higher market share and cuts in costs helped it to turn around a 630 million guilders (£194 million) loss in 1990-91 into a net profit of £125 million for the year to March.

The Dutch flag carrier's profit was as about the middle of analysts' predictions. The dividend is £1. KLM last paid £1.80 in 1989-90.

Despite a poor year for international aviation, KLM said its traffic grew 7 per cent and productivity 9 per cent helped by its three-year cost-cutting programme. Falling fuel prices after the end of the Gulf war helped the company cut spending on fuel by 3 per cent to £177.8 million. The sale of a Fokker 27 and two DC10 airliners produced a book profit of £161 million.

But stakes in loss-making airlines, mainly the 49 per cent equity stake in Northwest Airlines, took £145 million, about the same as a year ago. "Everything is being tried to improve the results in these participations," the company said.

Interest charges rose to £125.3 million from £104 million because of higher debts and interest charges. KLM made no forecasts for the current year.

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8am - 10pm

including weekends.

Cash call launched by Blue Circle for French purchase

By Our City Staff

BLUE Circle, the cement and lawn-mowers group, launched a £242 million rights issue to fund the acquisition of Celsius, a leading French heating equipment supplier.

Celsius has a sizable share of the French and German heating markets. The purchase is regarded by Blue Circle as an important move towards building a strong European presence in home products, which contributed almost 30 per cent of group operating profits last year.

After an initial markdown,

Blue Circle shares gained ground to close 3p higher at 247p, reflecting investor approval of both the rights issue and the move into Europe.

Blue Circle is paying £124.9 million for the French group and in addition Celsius's £81.2 million of net debt is being taken on with the purchase. The one-for-five rights issue will raise £241.6 million with the new shares on offer at 200p per share. The rights issue is not conditional on a successful completion of the deal. Blue Circle

also forecast an unchanged dividend of 11.25p for calendar 1992.

Celsius makes a wide range of heating equipment, including boilers and radiators, sold in continental Europe under the Chappee, Broje, Finitmetal, Burnham and Rodiac brand names. Charles Young, chief executive of Blue Circle's home products group said: "Celsius has leading positions in the French and German heating markets, sound manufacturing facilities and extensive distribution and brand strength."

"It is an excellent fit with our existing Home Products core businesses."

The acquisition marks Blue Circle's second recent step to expand its Potterton Myson heating products operation after last November's purchase of Thermopanel of Sweden. In calendar 1991, Celsius made operating profits of £23.4 million on sales of £361 million.

Based in Paris, it is the market leader in domestic radiators in France and a growing supplier to the German market through a manufacturing plant there. The firm is also one of the leading makers of floor-standing gas and oil boilers in France, The Netherlands and Germany. Blue Circle said Celsius's European network, which also includes sales firms in Spain, Italy and Austria, was expected to provide cross-selling opportunities for both of its group products.

But the company said that home products markets, along with others, have yet to see recovery despite increasing confidence. Despite talk of improvement, the UK housing market still looked uncertain and sales volumes in the cement industry, where the group is a market leader, had dropped 10 per cent in the first four months of 1992.

"Principally because of the further fall in UK cement volumes, the trading outlook for the company in 1992 is not as good as in 1991," Blue Circle said. The £206.1 million gross cost of Celsius will be funded by the rights issue but the extra £35.5 million raised will be used to expand the business. Blue Circle said that post the acquisition its balance sheet will remain strong.

The 123.6 million new shares to be issued are being offered to shareholders on the register at the close of business on May 29. Holders of the group's convertible preference shares are also included in the rights offer on the basis of 1 new share for every 9,625 convertible preference shares.

An extraordinary meeting will be held on June 30 to increase the authorised share capital.



Leading admirer: Sir Raymond, former BAE chief, likes TNT's strategic vision

Lygo takes the chair at TNT's British operation

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

SIR Raymond Lygo, the former British Aerospace chief executive, has been appointed chairman of TNT Express (UK), the expanding distribution group.

Under Sir Raymond's hand, TNT will set aside its ambitions to compete with the Post Office to deliver domestic mail. Rather, it will concentrate on replicating the success of its British transport business through-out Europe.

Alan Jones, TNT's managing director, said improvements in the quality of the Post Office letter service and the refusal of ministers to countenance a regulated duopoly had removed the opportunity for competition in letter delivery.

"Four or five years ago, the letter delivery service provided by the Post Office was being criticised left, right and centre," he said. "I think they have made brilliant strides in improving the service. I don't think the opportunity that was there five years ago exists to the same extent today."

However, TNT is gravely concerned at plans by Parcelforce, the Royal Mail

parcel service, to invest £250 million in an effort to win back market share lost to private companies in parcel distribution.

Sir Raymond said he wanted to see a level playing field, in which the Post Office was barred from cross-subsidising its businesses. He was also concerned that the Post Office should use commercial criteria, and rates of interest, to justify its investments.

In that respect, he may find a common interest with Sir Bryan Nicholson, the British arm of the Australian group TNT Ltd, had resulted in its management being given oversight of TNT's operations in Germany, Spain and Hungary.

TNT now aimed to develop its continental operations to be mirror images of those in the UK, which provide express parcel deliveries, contract distribution and newspaper distribu-

tion. In Britain, TNT already employs 7,500 and operates more than 3,000 vehicles.

Sir Raymond said he was convinced that the integration of European markets would continue, despite the hiatus caused by the Danish referendum decision to reject the Maastricht treaty on further monetary and social integration.

The transport and distribution industry would play a central role.

"If we can get to a dominating position in Europe, that is good news not only for TNT but for UK Ltd," Sir Raymond said.

Since retiring from BAE almost three years ago, Sir Raymond, 68, has been a director of James Capel, the stockbroking firm, and chairman of Rutland Trust.

Sir Raymond said he had been impressed by the way TNT looked ahead in its business, "not only because I was able to sell them 72 BAE 146 freighters as a result of the way they looked ahead."

He replaces Peter Aulsebrook, who died last year.

Spain investing £490m to boost tourist sector

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

FACED with rising prices and stiffer competition from other tourist destinations, the Spanish government is to inject £490 million to improve the image of the tourist sector, its most important industry, which accounts for 8.1 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP).

During the next four years, half the money will be given as grants to the regional governments to improve infrastructure and services, while the balance will be available as loans at 12 per cent for modernising and upgrading hotels and tourist complexes as well as for staff training.

"Although the traditional office of sun and beach seems to keep on maintaining a high level of acceptability, one must realise that Spain is not free from the trends in the market," José Claudio Aranzadi, minister of industry, commerce and tourism, said.

He issued a warning that although Spain should have a boom year in 1992 with the Expo world fair in Seville and the summer Olympics in Barcelona, the tourist sector risks "the possibility of losing its great strength as the first national economic sector and its leadership in world markets".

Prices have soared in Spain since it joined the EC in 1986 but the resorts and hotels did not change their image to offer the sort of value for money more readily available at destinations such as Greece and Florida. Resorts such as Magaluf and San Antonio in the Balearic Islands or Playa de las Americas in Tenerife have gained an infamous reputation for hooligan visitors.

Jaime Cladera, tourist minister for the Balearics, says that the government funds now available will help finance a scheme at San Antonio in Ibiza, started last week, which includes construction of a palm-lined marine parade and lush parks.

Benidorm on the Costa Blanca, one of Europe's largest holiday resorts with 3.5 million visitors a year, will this year open its first training college for hotel and catering staff.

□ The Spanish Consumers' Union yesterday said it was taking 91 Seville hoteliers to court for price-rigging during Expo, a practice prohibited by law.

DIY side suffers at Boots

By Colin Campbell

SIR James Blyth, chief executive of The Boots Company, has suggested that nobody is making money out of do-it-yourself operations against a background of fierce competition that temporarily shifts market position and only confuses the public.

Sir James said the group's overall DIY sales had been affected by the heavy discounting by other DIY operations, but that his group would do all that was necessary to defend its corner.

Pre-tax profits of The Boots Company, excluding property profits, rose in the year to end March from £335.8 million to £359.5 million, on sales that were 2.5 per cent higher at £2.66 billion. The final dividend rises from 7.5p to 8.1p a share, making 12.4p a share (11.6p).

Profits at Boots The Chemists advanced from £228.8 million to £246.2 million, but Halfords turned in a £10.5 million loss (£2.8 million profit) that led to a £32.6 million swing within the retail division which reported overall losses of £5.3 million (£27.3 million profit).

Boots shares fell 24p to 466p.

Temps, page 22

GEC to cut 825 jobs in defence offshoots

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

THE General Electric Company is to shed 825 workers from defence subsidiaries in Chelmsford, Essex.

The cutbacks coincide with a request from Essex County Council for voluntary redundancies among 740 education staff at County Hall in Chelmsford and at six area offices.

Trade union representatives were deeply concerned at the double wave of redundancies in a town where, they said, jobs were already hard to find.

The bulk of the manufacturing redundancies are at Marconi Radar and Control

Systems (MRCS), which is to close its manufacturing plant in Chelmsford, where 600 are employed.

At the same time, GEC-Marconi Communications said it was shedding 225 jobs from its workforce in the town.

A spokesman for MRCS, which employs a total of 2,000 people in Chelmsford, said that although it had won new business, demand for its products had fallen.

"Every effort will be made to assist those affected to find alternative work with GEC or other employers in the locality," the spokesman said.

Setback for Euro Disney

EURO Disneyland, the theme park east of Paris, has apparently confirmed market fears about its performance by putting the number of guests at more than 1.5 million since the opening on April 12. Observers said this figure, of less than 30,000 a day, is well below the number needed for the park to hit profit targets.

The company has said it needs an average of 30,000 a day during the first year, but the figure in the summer was expected to be substantially higher to counterbalance the downturn in the winter. Nigel Reed, a leisure analyst at Paribas, said: "They should have been doing more than the average for the year during the opening period. We would advise caution and, perhaps, some profit-taking."

Hanson buys

Hanson's American subsidiary, Mardian Coal, has bought a coal mine in West Virginia for \$165 million from American Electric Power. Hanson will make an initial payment of \$62 million, followed by \$77 million over 13 years.

Cluff optimism

Algy Cluff, chairman of Cluff Resources, told yesterday's annual meeting that new indicated reserves at the Fieda Rebecca mine in Zimbabwe could see the firm "producing gold well into the next century".

IWP advance

IWP International, the Irish industrial holding company, lifted pre-tax profits from £19.2 million to £111 million (£10 million) in the year to March. The final dividend of 3.85p makes 6.6p (6p).

Receivers in

Receivers have been appointed at All Wheel Drive, a private commercial vehicle manufacturer based in Dunstable, Bedfordshire, that employs 650.

Brokers give blank looks as Topic fails

By Jon Ashworth

NOSTALGIA for the days when stockmarket deals were struck on the tip of a hat and a handshake swept the City yesterday when the Stock Exchange's creaky information news service collapsed in disarray.

Technicians spent much of the day trying to pin down what had gone wrong with Topic, the 12-year-old on-screen information service. More than 10,000 Topic subscribers were left staring at blank screens as dealers scrambled for firm quotations on prices.

Alarm bells began ringing at about 9am when Topic's software began to fail. By 11.30am, the problems were so bad that the Stock Exchange decided the only viable option was to wipe the software clean and start afresh. A partial service began again at 2pm.

The Stock Exchange was quick to scotch claims that anything was wrong with Seag, the electronic quotation system which holds the market together. Quotations from

market-makers are fed to the outside world via a direct computer feed, Topic, or quote vendors such as Reuters or Ertel.

Anyone plugged in by computer had access to prices all day, the Stock Exchange said. But so many brokers rely on Topic alone that the chances of a normal working day were slim.

By 4pm, the number of share traded was a fairly average 377 million.

The last time Topic broke down was particularly embarrassing for the Stock Exchange. The collapse last October — four years on from Black Monday — came in the week that two rival information services were launched by Reuters and Quotron.

Reuters was happily churning out volume levels yesterday.

Andersen Consulting, the management consultant, has been called in to review the Stock Exchange systems. The total bill for running the systems last year came to £50 million.

Banana agreement

THE European Commission yesterday said that Chiquita, an American banana group, had agreed to stop blocking Fyffes, the Irish food group, from using the Fyffes brand name on the Continent (Tom Walker writes from Brussels).

The seemingly bizarre situation under which Fyffes

could not label its bananas with its own name had come about because Chiquita used to own Fyffes. When Fyffes was bought by FFI Holdings in 1986, Fyffes granted Chiquita the right to continue using the Fyffes name on the Continent on Chiquita bananas for another three years.

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INTERNATIONAL FAIRS CALENDAR FROM JUNE TO DECEMBER 1992	
June	October
2-4 Essex Knitwear	1-5 28° Smau Informatics, telematics and telecommunications systems, office machines and office furnishing
5-8 Chilchilue '92 Gift articles, costume jewellery, fancy goods, perfume items and smokers' accessories	15-19 18° Smau Broadcasting and telecommunications equipment South Pavilion Lacciolarella
9-13 Milano '92 Industrial and mechanical handling facilities and components, systems, vehicle equipment for distribution, production automation	16-19 22° Mipol Leather goods
9-13 Fluidtrans Compomac Power transmission systems and control, engineering design, hydraulic, pneumatic, mechanical, electrical and electronic components, equipment for engineering design	16-21 18° Smau Machines tools
23-26 Settimana Internazionale di Fiera Milano General Fair	17-19 Interarea Technical and sanitary orthopedic, sanitary articles, surgical instruments, physioelectromedical appliances, hospital equipment, corsets and sanitary articles for infants, aids for the disabled
	17-20 Star Furnishing, textiles, carpets, curtains, upholstery fabrics, wallcoverings and household linens South Pavilion Lacciolarella
September	25-30 58° Mifed Cinema and television market
4-7 Macé Autunno '92 Household articles, crystalware, ceramics, gift articles, silverware, jewellery, precious stones, wall-mounted household articles of quality, small electrical appliances	November
6-8 Misa Estivo '92 Sports-wear, sport articles and camping equipment South Pavilion Lacciolarella	6-10 Expo Market
11-15 Sisalitalia Women's wear	6-10 Expo Tour Tourism equipment
11-15 Modest - Milanavendemmia La moda a Milano Women's wear	6-10 Expo non Food Non food products on large scale
12-14 Mifed - Modacalcium Shoes	6-10 Expo Food Foodstuffs and beverages
17-20 Mifed Hardware tools, do it yourself South Pavilion Lacciolarella	18-19 Resine and pigments
17-21 Sim Hi Fi line '92 Hi-Fi, high fidelity, video and electronics	24-28 Mac '92 Chemistry, chemical equipment for analysis, research, tests and biotechnology
28-30 Moda In Textiles and accessories South Pavilion Lacciolarella	28 November - 2 December Milano2000 '92 Electronic surveillance and alarm equipment, property and personal protection
	December
	1-3 Essex Knitwear

THE EXHIBITIONS LISTED IN THE CALENDAR ARE SUBJECT TO VARIATIONS BOTH WHERE DATES AND VENUE ARE CONCERNED

COMMENT

Wowing America for medicine

Investors will receive no charity from Wellcome. So much becomes clear as the late Sir Henry Wellcome's charitable foundation embarks on the "warm-up" for a share sale worth up to £4 billion next month. Wider share ownership is not among the trust's objectives, as Robert Fleming stressed yesterday. The global co-ordinator sees its job as maximising the take for the trust, for the benefit of medicine and therefore, by extension, for the health of us all. For every £1 billion raised by the trust, medical research and development will benefit to the tune of £35 million a year. Put another way, every million given away in endowments would deprive medical research of £35,000 a year.

Fleming has leant heavily on the BT experience in devising its sale structure. After the three-week warm-up period, the marketing campaign proper will get under way and, a fortnight further on, tenders will be invited. The "book-building" process that will gather pace over the ensuing two weeks, has the advantage to the seller of keeping the cost of the offer down, and to investors of ensuring that their money is at risk of market movements for the shortest possible time. If Wellcome is feeling a little queasy, that is because pharmaceutical stocks are falling back from a period of high favour, particularly in America, where John Robb, Wellcome's chief executive, would like to see much of the issue find a home. Hence his booking on a Monday morning flight to New York. His task is to convince Americans, who buy 50 per cent of Wellcome's products but hold only 2 per cent of its shares, that his company ranks among the most historically and potentially successful drugs companies in the world. On his success will depend the size of the discount the trust will have to accept on the current share price.

Merger politics

Sir Gordon Borrie, who has unrivalled experience of vetting mergers in Britain, has not been impressed by the performance of Brussels on mergers coming into its orbit so far. In the one case where the Commission took a firm stand to block a reduction in competition, there was a messy internal disagreement and much political wrangling, which questioned the Commission's ability to adjudicate effectively and independently. Nestlé's takeover of Perrier may underline his point. The commission seems poised to turn down its collective thumb, mainly because the main competitors in French bottled water will be reduced from three to two, though Nestlé claims the commission has failed to notice its divestment of one leading brand to rival BSN. More ominously, the French finance minister has effectively told the commission not to interfere because debates had already been held in the affected countries, meaning principally France, and reopening the subject on crude competition tests would not be in the interests of European development.

The French, not alone among continentals, are used to arranging their own mergers with a strong political input behind the scenes, either as part of national industrial policy or out of habit. The Perrier affair, which involved Italy's Agnelli family, a state-controlled banking group and France's chosen national food champion, became as political as any. There is a plain conflict between the Commission's competition test and the use of mergers for national industrial policy. If the commission is to play the central role in vetting big international mergers, it must assert its authority and the primacy of its competition test. If politics prevents that, its role should be curtailed rather than be expanded, and more jurisdiction returned to national authorities.

Wolfgang Münchau
takes a critical look
at the country's
ambitious but
risky programme to
reform its economy

The casino in Pilsen's Continental Hotel was supposed to be a symbol of the new age of plenty. But only three months after its grand opening in September 1990, four masked robbers entered, held the 40 guests at gunpoint, sprayed tear gas liberally, and escaped with \$83,000.

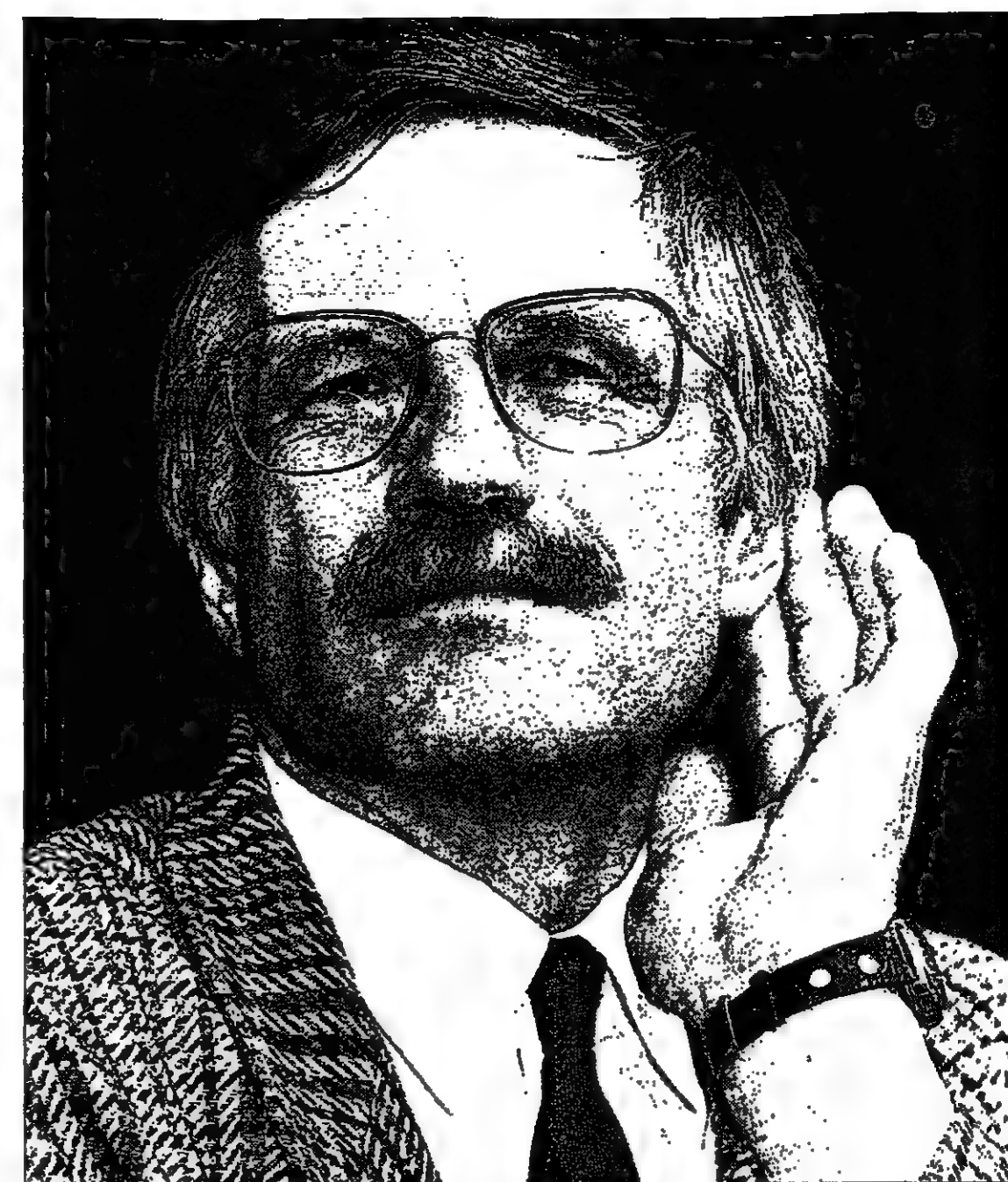
Now let us suppose that the games played in that unfortunate casino were not roulette or blackjack but the privatisation of Czechoslovakia's economy. It is not as unreasonable an assumption as it may sound, since the federal government has chosen a scheme under which the allocation of shares is carried out by a lottery-style mechanism. The purpose of the game is the privatisation of a substantial part of the economy virtually overnight. Imagine what kind of a hold-up that would be?

Admittedly, this comparison is somewhat exaggerated, but it reflects real fears about the dangers of economic reform in Czechoslovakia: fears that the majority of people will lose, that only a tiny minority will gain, most of all the gangsters. Mass privatisation, as it is called, may work well and could set an example for the rest of eastern Europe. But then, it could equally prove a disaster. We do not know. What we do know is that mass privatisation is among the most daring of economic experiments.

At today's general elections, the Czechoslovaks determine their future government, and it looks as if the economic reform programme will receive popular endorsement. The right-wing Civic Democratic Party, headed by Vaclav Klaus, the radical finance minister and the driving force behind the programme, is expected to do well, although no single party is likely to have a majority. Should that be the outcome, the programme Mr Klaus has started will go ahead as planned and may even be intensified.

Within a few weeks, Czechoslovakia should have the largest private sector in eastern Europe, having been the smallest. In a few weeks, Czechoslovakia will also have the largest proportion of citizens as private shareholders in the world.

About 3,000 companies have subscribed to the voucher privatisation programme. Privatisation by vouchers means simply that the government is transferring, for only a modest fee, part of the state-owned sector directly to its citizens. The vouchers have been compared with investment money, which the citizens can use to bid for a share in the companies of their choice. Who



Driving force: Vaclav Klaus, the radical finance minister, is a key figure in the state's sell-off strategy

receives what will be decided by the "invisible hand" of the free market.

In this case, the "invisible hand" is nothing other than a giant Digital computer, situated in the federal statistics office in Prague. The computer takes in the bids, sets demand against supply, and calculates the "correct" allocations. The only thing that can stop them now is not politics, nor economics, but a power failure, a computer virus or the "invisible hand" of a crook at the computer keyboard.

The voucher is so simple that it is mind-boggling, since the more one knows about privatisation, the less one is likely to understand the scheme. Western advisers, merchant bankers and especially economists were baffled, and many could not grasp its principles. There is no valuation, there is not even a proper sale, merely an allocation. The ordi-

nary citizens of Czechoslovakia had no such conceptual difficulties. For them it meant forking out one week's wages in return for vouchers, which they were told would earn them at least a tenfold return within one year. It was all they wanted to know, and for the scheme to proceed it was all they needed to know.

Alas, it is not going to be that easy. Criticism of fast-track microeconomic reform such as voucher privatisation has been growing, not only among economists. The pendulum in the perennial debate between shock therapists and gradualists has recently swung back towards the gradualists after Poland, an early proponent of fast-track reform, was forced to swing back into the slow lane. Polish politicians recognised that there are no votes in stocks, unemployment and bankruptcies. Czechoslovakia may not yet be at this juncture yet, but

it may be only a matter of time. After almost two years of debate, the first phase of the voucher scheme was started last December, when the government offered vouchers to each adult citizen at a nominal price of 1,035 korunas (\$34). Vouchers were not immediately popular, but took off once a series of domestic investment funds, with names like Harvard Capital & Consulting, offered a guaranteed tenfold return. Out of a total of 8 million voucher holders, over 5 million have registered with one of the 400 investment funds. They are all hoping for the big profit.

In most cases, it will be the first profit they will ever have made in their lives. As a concession to the opposition, Mr Klaus did not press ahead as originally planned with the privatisation of 100 per cent of a company's capital. The average number of shares available for voucher holders is

60 per cent of the equity, although the range is wide. These shares have a total net book value of almost 300 billion korunas, close to \$10 billion.

Superficially, there is nothing more at stake than a week's wage from the point of view of the individual investor. But because of the tenfold return guarantee given by investment funds, the system is under heavy pressure. If 8 million voucher holders who have paid 1,035 korunas expect a tenfold return, which equals 10,350 korunas, then the total expected return is 82.8 billion korunas. This is going to be the benchmark against which Czechoslovakia's newly private sector will be judged within 12 months. If it fails, all hell could break loose. But the gambit could work, if the net book value is even remotely correct, since the book value for each voucher holder is about 35,000 korunas, over three times the expected return. The snag is that the book value may bear no relationship with market value. Inflated expectations gave rise to much concern among officials in the privatisation ministry, but by then it was too late. Tomasz Telus, a Czech economist at PlanEcon, the Washington economic consultancy, warns his countrymen that "there are faults in the programme which are not problematic now but which could in a year from now threaten the stability of the entire economy. If these investment funds realise that their companies are not performing well, they may find they don't have the money to pay out the tenfold promise. So they may be forced to sell out."

This could result in a panic-ridden sell-off, and the collapse of the country's financial system. Meanwhile the funds exercise little control. The result could be sudden mass liquidation of a significant sector of the Czechoslovak economy. Mass privatisation will have turned into mass unemployment.

The outcome could get even worse. The combination of investment vouchers, ignorant investors, financial deregulation and the absence of a mature regulatory framework of the kind that exists in the West could allow fraud on a large scale, which would exacerbate the financial squeeze. Given that certain people have a proclivity towards "incorrect" behaviour, this fear cannot be overstated.

Meanwhile the giant computer in Prague will be at work throughout most of the summer. Should Mr Klaus receive an endorsement and should he be able to build a stable coalition, the scheme may even be extended, which means that the stakes would rise further.

Czechoslovakia wants to escape from the legacies of communism as quickly as possible. Vouchers will certainly achieve that, one way or the other. But vouchers are highly addictive, and Czechoslovakia appears totally hooked. The Czechoslovaks will be anxiously waiting for the moment when the crozier announces the final act: *Les jeux sont faits. Rien ne va plus.*

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Photo call for Asher

BERNARD Asher, chairman of James Capel, has discovered a new meaning to the phrase "bottom line" after being snapped in close proximity to a seemingly naked Vivienne Westwood, the fashion designer, by the *Daily Mirror* paparazzi. Asher, who was attending a Kensington Palace do attended by Princess Michael of Kent on Wednesday night, had the misfortune to be seated behind the designer in her now-famous transparent dress when the photographers moved in. Owing to Asher's short-sightedness, the snap gave a rather unfortunate impression, but Asher was yesterday said to be taking the picture in good fun. Capel is now hoping shareholders in Midland, currently under bid from Capel's parent company Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, will not get the wrong idea. "He was just an innocent bystander," a spokesperson for James Capel says, adding that without the flashlights the dress, though "form-fitting" was hardly transparent at all.

Son of George

OUR mole on British Rail's "drain" shuttle between Bank and Waterloo has not deserted us. Since he last popped up in September, he has been monitoring BR's dismal performance and reports the service has been cancelled 22 times without notice since January. He now says that having failed to locate George, the hapless signman BR previously blamed for its failures, he is switching his searches to finding Son of George, a

somewhat younger signman, who it appears is currently the only reliable source of information on the shuttle's operations. This Monday, LBC Radio told listeners the service was closed. A BR area manager also told callers the service was cancelled. Meanwhile, trains were running, but only insiders who had the direct line telephone number to Son of George's signalbox were in a position to know. So far the only known possessor of the coveted "hotline" number is a shop tenant on the Bank station concourse. Our mole is trying to extract the number from him and promises City Diary readers an exclusive as soon as he manages to secure it.

Lord bows out

ALAN Lord, the redoubtable former Treasury mandarin who has held one of the most thankless jobs in the City over the past six years, finally bowed out as chief executive of Lloyd's of London yesterday lunchtime at his seventeenth press conference. Lord, who is retiring at the age of 63, has frequently found himself in the firing line over the management of Lloyd's during his tenure but has nevertheless won some Fourth Estate fans for the colourful combination of wit and irritation with which he has fielded the customary battery of critical questioning from the press corps. Over the past six years there can have been few questions about the market that he has not answered. With an average of about 30 questions at each press conference, he has had to come up with more than 2,300 responses. Even if a high proportion of those will not have satisfied the question-



ers, few City figures have been capable of delivering such a dry and bemusing "no comment". He will be missed.

In the driving seat

MARK Cusack, who quit as director of corporate finance at Hoare Govett just over a year ago, is back in the Square Mile. Cusack, 34, born in Dublin and remembered at Hoare Govett for his white Porsche convertible, has reappeared at Barclays de Zoete Wedd in a different — but not entirely unfamiliar — role as head of BZW's research team covering conglomerates and other industrial materials. Cusack joined Hoare Govett in 1983 and was the number one rated conglomerates analyst before becoming head of research and later moving into corporate finance. His year out of the City has been spent working as a consultant and has seen many changes, not least of which has been the sale of the Porsche occasioned by the birth of his first child, Jessica. "I'm afraid it's true it had to go," says Cusack. "We now

have a nice big non-convertible non-Porsche family saloon."

LATEST City definition of an economist: someone who knows 250 ways of making love but does not know any women.

Blistering pace

ACCORDING to Eric Gabbitas, senior dealer at Henderson Crosswhite, participants in the Stock Exchange London-to-Brighton walking race will suffer more blisters than ever in the sixty-ninth annual event that takes place tomorrow. "It used to be packed full of messengers who were used to walking around the City," he says. "Now there are no more messengers and it's full of brokers not used to walking trying to work off executive lunches." The Henderson Crosswhite team will include Chris Ray, assistant director, and Peter Land, associate executive, and while Gabbitas himself reckons he is in pretty good shape he admits that he, too, would not mind shedding a few excess pounds.

Ferriday leaves

AFTER our news that Enskilda is losing fund manager Diana Barran we learn that Ernie Ferriday, the German specialist, has now also quit the firm in a shake-up of Enskilda's securities side. Ferriday, 35, formerly senior European analyst at Morgan Grenfell has been with Enskilda for more than four years. He has agreed not to work for a rival for six months — he will use the time, he says, to try his hand at a novel.

DEBRA ISAAC

BUSINESS LETTERS

Miras rate cut could finance aid for low paid

From Mr Steve Wilcox
Sir, The phased abolition of Miras would only disproportionately aid the better-off if it was used to reduce tax rates. But in the penultimate paragraph of the article by Andrew Dilnot and Paul Johnson (Economic View, May 26), they point out that increases in allowances have a more balanced distributive effect than reductions in tax rates.

The case for the abolition of Miras is more its economic inefficiency, and its discriminatory impact across tenures, rather than across income bands.

The progressive impact of the £30,000 limit, and the abolition of higher rate relief, have greatly reduced the regressive dimension to Miras. Moreover, tax changes affecting the housing market need to be evaluated over time, taking account of their likely

impact on the wider economy. On its own, the trade-off between Miras and lower taxes is likely to be deflationary, through its net impact on house prices, savings and consumption, and would subsequently erode the exchequer's future tax base.

At the same time most home buyers will, by now, be anticipating the reduction in the Miras rate from 25 per cent to 20 per cent at some point over the next few years.

The £1.25 billion or so this would release could be most effectively used to introduce a "mortgage benefit" scheme for households in low-paid work, so removing the inequity and inefficiency of the employment trap that constrains an increasing number of unemployed home-buyers. It would also leave about £500 million to increase tax allowances. Quite apart from the

equitable considerations, the mortgage benefit scheme would substantially reduce repossessions and help to restore confidence in the housing market, with all the potential benefits to the wider economy that might follow.

No one wants a repetition of the excesses of 1988 etc, but that is no longer a realistic fear. The overhang of unsold homes, the expectation of low inflation, and demographic changes all suggest that without some further initiative, the more likely prospect is that the languishing housing market will continue to hold back the rate of even modest economic recovery.

Yours faithfully,
STEVE WILCOX,
Senior Research Associate,
Department of City and Regional Planning,
University of Wales,
College of Cardiff.

Maintaining the IoD's premises

From the Director General of the Institute of Directors
Sir, I would like to correct the impression given in the City Diary ("Pictures of Woe", June 2) that the Institute of Directors is either unwilling or unable to fulfil its obligation to maintain its premises and furnishings at 116 Pall Mall.

The many thousands of visitors and members who use the IoD premises will know of the high standards to which this historic building has been restored (in keeping with its period) and is constantly being maintained.

The IoD is in the process of assessing the requirement to maintain several of the historic works of art housed at 116 Pall Mall. It is fully conscious of, and is preparing to meet, its responsibilities in this respect and to that end is engaged in the normal consultations which take place between tenant and landlords' agents, with whom we have the most friendly relations, in such matters.
Yours faithfully,
PETER MORGAN,
Director General,
Institute of Directors,
116 Pall Mall,
SW1.

ment mortgages, repayments have a minimal impact on the problem.

Our computer model of the housing market predicts that if prices in general become stable, house prices will not have reached the peak of 1988-89 by the end of the century; and that on a number of completely credible assumptions, house prices could fall further over the coming decade.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. S. EGERTON,
Economic & Regulatory Analysts,
9 St James's Place,
SW1.

Letters to The Times
Business and Finance
section can be sent by
fax on 071-782 5112.

Up to 5 million are trapped in their homes

From Mr Joe Egerton
Sir, Your report of the competing analyses of the effect of falling house prices and the effect on indebtedness focuses on the number of people currently unable to repay their loans by selling their homes.

While this is an important issue, the real problem is the very large number of borrowers who can repay their mortgages but would not have enough left over to afford the deposit on their present home, let alone a larger property. This is a massive change in market conditions since 1989. Until that year, rising house prices meant that after between a year and three years, the first-time buyer was able to sell and have double his original deposit available for a second purchase.

We estimate that of the first-time buyers since 1987, 2 million could not sell and

afford the deposit needed to re-purchase their present property. Of those who had mortgages in 1987, we estimate that between 1.5 million and 3 million are in the same position.

Although most of these borrowers now have incomes which would enable them to service a larger mortgage, they cannot take advantage of this because they would have to borrow a higher proportion of the value of their purchase than lenders will currently advance.

As a result, between 20 and 30 per cent of the total stock of owner-occupied housing is held by people who cannot afford to move.

If the government succeeds in holding inflation down, this is not going to change quickly. Since a majority of those caught by falling prices have endowment rather than repay-

Bundesbank keeps policy tight as growth strengthens

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

STRONG German growth figures for the first quarter, reflecting the good weather and extra working days, were yesterday accompanied by data showing output rising and unemployment continuing to fall in more recent months.

The Bundesbank's policy-making council, still concerned about inflationary pressures, left its key lending rates unchanged. Quick settlements in the pay round last month had raised hopes that the bank would be encouraged to ease policy. Robust first quarter growth is, however, likely to encourage it to keep the monetary reins tight.

Jürgen Möllemann, the economics minister, welcomed the seasonally adjusted 2 per cent increase in western Germany's gross national product

in the first quarter. This gave a year-on-year increase of 1.8 per cent in real terms. The gross domestic product showed the same quarter-on-quarter rise, but indicated year-on-year growth of 3.1 per cent. The big gap between annual growth rates for GNP and GDP was explained by the large number of east Germans who commute to work in west Germany and by a steep fall in capital transfers to west Germany.

Herr Möllemann welcomed the figures as confirmation that growth "accelerated significantly" during the first quarter, helped by a marked rise in investment. However, he said that, since special factors had contributed to growth, an upward trend could not be assumed this quarter. A "temporary damp-

ening" in activity could not be excluded, he said.

Economists remain divided about the robustness of German growth. Mark Cliffe, chief economist at Nomura Research Institute in London, said that recent talk of the end of the German economic miracle was simply a distortion in the light of the first-quarter growth numbers. He expects rising real income and improved export orders to produce a "reasonably robust" second half too, after a weaker second quarter. Kim Schoenholz, international economist at Salomon Brothers, is more sceptical, noting that full adjustment of the economic data provides a much weaker picture.

April figures on industrial production in west Germany, also issued yesterday, showed a provisional 0.3 per cent rise. The increase followed a 1.8 per cent fall in output in March, which had been heavily revised from the 2.8 per cent slump initially given. Construction and manufacturing output were down, while the mining and utility sectors showed rises. In the important capital goods sector, output fell 1 per cent. Year on year, industrial production was up 0.6 per cent.

The federal labour office meanwhile reported that unemployment, unadjusted for seasonal factors, fell in both eastern and western Germany last month. In the western part, the total dropped to 1.70 million, or 6.2 per cent of the workforce from 6.4 per cent in April. After seasonal adjustment the total rose to 1.78 million from 1.76 million. In the eastern part, it fell sharply to 1.15 million in May, pushing the unadjusted jobless total down to 1.15 million, or 14.6 per cent of the workforce from 15.2 per cent in April. Dieter Vogel, the federal government spokesman, said the long-term upturn in western German employment was, however, continuing.



Making European waters safe: Lord Caithness, the transport minister

Safe shipping is a priority

FROM CHRIS ELIOU IN ATHENS

THE Earl of Caithness, the transport minister, has told a shipping forum that the question of raising maritime safety standards in European Community waters would become increasingly important during the British presidency in the next six months.

Speaking at an international shipping exhibition in Piraeus, he said Britain would seek to ensure that all vessels trading in its waters were of high standard.

Lord Caithness, summarising the priorities of shipping policy in Britain's coming six-months' presidency of the Community, listed cabo-

tage, securing an efficient and fair financial framework for community shipping and raising and enforcing standards.

A further priority, he said, would be to tackle the broad question of state aid across all transport modes, including shipping. An ever increasing spiral of subsidy cannot be the answer to the decline of the EC-registered fleet. He said it could only result in over-touring, distortions and inefficiency, and of course, a heavy burden on the taxpayer.

With the completion of the internal market, Lord Caithness said, the Community should be focusing on the

need to iron out distortions of competition resulting from the different system so that all EC registered vessels would compete on an equal footing.

But he said: "Part and parcel of this approach must be to ensure the EC-flag vessels do not face unfair competition from sub-standard third country shipping. Why should we have substantial ships in Europe or rust-buckets calling at our ports?"

He hoped that a European Commission communication on maritime safety expected in the near future, would provide a useful focus for debate within the Community.

Manufacturers planning to cut capital spending

By OUR ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH manufacturers, wary about the economic outlook, expect to pare capital spending by 2 per cent this year after a fall of nearly 16 per cent in spending on plant, equipment and buildings last year.

But the Central Statistical Office's spring survey of investment intentions, reflecting responses from firms in March and April, indicates that manufacturers expect volume spending to start to rise again in 1993 after three years of decline. Hit hard by the recession, manufacturers appear keen to focus efforts on restoring their financial position rather than boosting capital investment.

This development has been a cause of serious concern to the Confederation of British Industry, which fears that the prolonged decline in British investment will undermine its competitiveness in world markets.

Rival economies have managed to increase capital expenditure throughout the global slowdown. With real interest rates expected to remain high for the next year or two, firms have little encouragement to borrow for expansion.

The twice-yearly CSO survey, which covers around a tenth of manufacturers' capital investment, estimated total capital spending this year at a seasonally adjusted £10.03 billion, compared with £10.24 billion last year. All industries are expected to spend less this year, with the biggest falls anticipated in metals, food, drink and tobacco. Expenditure on new building is expected to show a further significant fall, but investment in machinery, plant and vehicles is expected to rise.

A more encouraging picture could be seen in the latest CSO data on the leading economic indicators.

These showed the coincident indicator, which tracks current movements in the business cycle, rising for the second successive month. The longer leading indicator, which identifies turning points some 10 months in

advance, rose for the third successive month in April. American businesses plan to boost spending on plant and equipment by 4.7 per cent this year, according to the latest intentions survey by the commerce department in Washington. The April survey showed a slight improvement from the previous report in the first quarter.

Figures for new claims of unemployment benefit showed the first rise in three weeks, climbing to 407,000 for the week ending May 23.

Dart makes 'steady' progress

By RODNEY HOBSON

DART, the transport group, is looking for acquisitions but Philip Meeson, chairman, promises that there will be no rights issue "unless a major opportunity presents itself".

Progress in the coming year will be steady rather than spectacular, he says. Pre-tax profit for the year to March was £1.9 million, up from £1.8 million. The final dividend is 2p, making 3.3p against 3p last time. Turnover improved from £32.4 million to £37.4 million.

Mr Meeson said: "The growth in the group's profits is somewhat less than I would have liked and this is mainly due to pressure on margins throughout the business, particularly in the second half. In our aviation services division we have suffered a lack of ad hoc charter business, although our base contract business has been steady. In our forwarding and distribution division, volumes have been static and margins tight."

He is keen to broaden the aviation services division's operations to include the supply of a wide range of aircraft parts and the support of airlines operating large commercial aircraft.

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Trading subdued

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began June 1. Dealings end June 12. Settlement day June 15. Settlement day June 22. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices reported are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio

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From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight stock price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall gain and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money award. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Shelco Corp	Electrical	
2	Anglian Water	Water	
3	Edinburgh & Fife	Research	
4	Unilever	Industrial	
5	Ames	Electrical	
6	Mandarin	Building/Ren	
7	Adia	Electrical	
8	Angli	Food	
9	THORN EMI	Electrical	
10	Cymru	Industrial	
11	Wendell	Electrical	
12	Canary Wharf	Food	
13	Warrington D	Research	
14	Radway	Industrial	
15	Shell	Oil/Gas	
16	Waters	Industrial	
17	Micro Focus	Electrical	
18	Mission Ship	Research	
19	Bedford	Building/Ren	
20	Waters	Water	
21	Eastward Ben	Bank/Dis	
22	LASMO	Oil/Gas	
23	Thames TV	Leisure	
24	TI	Industrial	
25	Scott & New	Research	
26	VTR	Paper/Print	
27	South West	Water	
28	Booker	Food	
29	Stirling Ind	Industrial	
30	Synthetic (Gf)	Paper/Print	
31	Parsons Steel	Newspaper/Pub	
32	BPS Ind	Building/Ren	
33	Agro Wiggins	Paper/Print	
34	Charles Nicholas	Property	
35	Drummond	Textiles	
36	ICI	Chemicals	
37	Yorkshire W	Water	
38	Star Comp	Industrial	
39	BAA	Transport	
40	Cowie (T)	Motor/Air	
41	Beaufort	Industrial	
42	Vesper Therapy	Industrial	
43	Amorus	Leisure	
44	BET Ord	Industrial	

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Please note into account any share splits

Weekly Dividend

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There were no winners yesterday's Portfolio Platinum competition and the £2,000 prize is being added to today's award.

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BUILDING, ROADS

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

ELECTRICALS

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

INDUSTRIALS

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

HOTELS, CATERERS

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

INSURANCE

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

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MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

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PROPERTY

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SHOES, LEATHER

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

TEXTILES

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

TOBACCO

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

TRANSPORT

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

WATER

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

MEDIUMS (6 to 15 years)

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

LONGS (over 15 years)

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

BRITISH FUNDS

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

UNDATED

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

INDEX-LINKED

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

WATER

1992 High Low Company Price % Chg % Yld P/E

Source: Financial Times

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THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 5 1992

1. *What is the main purpose of the study?*

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AMPING

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1. The first part of the document is a list of names and titles, including "The Hon. Mr. Justice" and "The Hon. Mr. Justice".

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By RODNEY HOBSON

She says: "It's a shame with the shortage of interpreters. There is a great need for more training for people like myself and doing it at night school would mean that getting to stage three would take seven years. Breakthrough wants people who can specialise in areas such as teaching, social work and interpreting."

Stage three means she is still only regarded as a registered trainee interpreter. She aims to become fully qualified, which will allow her to move into more technically demanding work, but she is getting plenty of experience in the mean time. She is working with deaf students at Bourville Community College, interpreting in classes via video, and at the French Centre, interpreting in classes via radio, and English and deaf maintenance

Julie then went on to a one-year.



Sign language: Julie Crouch became a freelance interpreter

Mrs Bradford says that input from small businesses suggests that the climate will not return to the heady days of the late 1980s. Entrepreneurs say the nature and depth of the recession has changed businesses and they believe that the recovery, when it comes, will be slow. They are saying: "The till will tell me better than any survey."

She says that a lower number of start-ups are looking to borrow from banks. This is partly because white collar workers losing their jobs have more money to put into the business.

Flower, Jane Bradford, the head of small business, says existing small businesses have been affected more severely. She says, "One reason why the recession hit so hard was that small businesses that started in the boom years based their financial assumptions on the belief that economic conditions would continue until they got established. They have been very exposed to the downturn. By the same token, businesses that are starting up now on much less optimistic assumptions must be

• "June is busting out all over!"

The Rural Development Commission is offering assistance, under a new scheme called ACCORD, towards the development of rural projects costing upwards of £250,000. They have to be job-creating and the scheme applies in a number of designated countryside areas. More details from the commission at 11 Cowley Street, London, SW1P 3NA; telephone 071-276 6970.

□ A DTI roadshow for clothing and textiles will be held at the New Connaught Rooms in central London next Wednesday. Admission is free and there will be DTI counsellors and consultants on hand. The roadshow will feature three DTI initiatives: Finance and management information systems, business planning and marketing.

□ This year's three-day UKEMRA small firms research and policy conference will be held in November, partly in Southampton and the rest in France, thus marking the creation of the single market. UKEMRA is the United Kingdom Economic Monitoring Research Association, the professional body for those researching small business affairs.

□ A booklet for small businesses, spelling out the benefits of looking after staff, has been published by the Department of Employment. *A Brief For Owners And Managers In Smaller Organisations* is available from training and enterprise councils.

EDITED BY DEREK HARRIS

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INFOTECH TIMES

Computer programs are curtailing the number of 'live' experiments needed, Nick Nuttall reports

How animal pain can be spared

A project that has just started at Leeds University could reduce the number of animals needed by pharmaceutical, chemical and agrochemical companies in testing. And it might cut costs for the development of drugs, cosmetics and pesticides.

At the heart of the project is a computer program called Derek — Deductive Estimation of Risk from Existing Knowledge — which is being backed by leading companies, as well as government bodies, including the Health and Safety Executive and the agriculture ministry.

The project aims initially to create an accurate, computer-based way of pinpointing compounds that might appear promising as drugs or agrochemicals but have potentially toxic or poisonous effects. Traditionally, companies have taken a scatter-gun approach to testing new compounds; a range of promising products is usually given to animals to test for adverse reactions.

By allowing a computer to do some of the preliminary

screening, it is likely that only the compounds that appear harmless will be taken to the next stage of development, thereby minimising the need for trials with mice, rabbits and other creatures.

Jan Langowski, a research fellow at Leeds and the database manager of Lhasa UK, an educational charity coordinating the project, says: "We do not see it as ever fully replacing animal experiments but as reducing the numbers of creatures used. If researchers can use Derek, it can point out areas of risk before animals are needed."

Using the program, scientists seeking a new cure can sketch a promising compound's structure on a computer screen and the system will first test whether it obeys the laws of physics and chemistry; to see whether it can be made. The program then searches the compound for fragments or groups of chemicals that have known poisonous or toxic effects. For example, if alpha haloketones are present, the program will show that these are known eye

irritants that can make people cry. Polyaromatic compounds, such as benzene would also be shown as carcinogenic.

"The program then asks more specific questions about the compound," Dr Langowski says. "It will ask what other chemical groups are in the molecule and which features of these might modify the toxicity. A compound might be toxic but if it has no way of getting into an organism, it will never exhibit those effects."

The Derek program, run on a Digital VAX 6310 computer, was born out of research in Boston at Harvard University and in Cambridge at Schering Agrochemicals.

Researchers at Harvard 20 years ago began developing the Lhasa program, an expert system in which the knowledge of research chemists was used to create a computerised method for synthesising compounds. With Lhasa, a researcher draws a compound on a screen and the program predicts the building materials needed and indicates the steps required to synthesise the drug or chemical.

In the mid 1980s, Schering bought the program and in 1987 modified its codes to create the basic Derek system for predicting the toxicity of compounds.

At the core of the program are 50 rules based on the expertise of a leading toxicologist and covering all the available knowledge on toxicity testing. This data governs the way the program reaches its decisions. In an attempt to widen the program's applications, responsibility for Derek was handed to the Leeds University team, which is based in the school of chemistry.

Dr Langowski says he and his colleagues are now six months into plans to broaden the expert knowledge of Derek



New hope: animal experiments like these will not end but there may be fewer of them

further by pooling more toxicity knowledge from companies and organisations.

Already, Shell Research and ICI have agreed to use the database under licence. Plans are also being laid to add metabolic knowledge to Derek, which can scan a compound for toxicity in under a minute. The project team has applied to the trade and industry department for £200,000 of funding under the department's collaborative Link scheme.

The Leeds research highlights how, under mounting pressure from animal rights activists and changing public opinion, companies and researchers are looking to technology to provide ways of minimising animal usage.

Some of the new procedures are being funded by companies and research organ-

isations themselves; others are by bodies such as the Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments, based in Nottingham.

At Leeds polytechnic, David Dewhurst and colleagues in the applied science department have been developing computer simulations that mimic animal experiments. The simulations will, for example, generate the electrical voltages and patterns of a frog's sciatic nerve or a rabbit's heart under the action of different drugs. Students can carry out experiments and gather results as if they were conducting the tests on a real animal's nerve or heart.

Scientists at the Hammer-smith hospital in London, meanwhile, have developed a scanner that could reduce the numbers of rats needed in drugs testing. Researchers studying the effects of drugs need to know where these

compounds and their breakdown products end up in the body and how quickly they get there. The conventional approach requires the killing of laboratory animals and examining parts of their bodies to see where the drug and the breakdown products may have gone once the compound has been administered.

The new scanner, a positron emission tomography scanner designed for working with rats, could help end this practice by obviating the need to kill animals. When a drug is given, it has isotopes of carbon, oxygen or fluorine added which emit positrons — so-called anti-electrons. When these collide with electrons inside the animal or human, they emit gamma rays.

The scanner detects these, giving researchers a constant update on the pathway of the drug and its breakdown products.

No names, no package drill

IBM is being coy about entering the cheaper end of the PC market

IBM announced a range of cheap personal computers yesterday, only weeks after denying it would do so, *Matthew May writes*. The new computers, two desktops and a laptop, will be sold only in Europe and will have little to do with IBM — no logo, IBM-type customer support or IBM components — although they are being sold by a wholly owned IBM subsidiary, Individual Computer Products International.

The machines, called Ambra, which will use the 386SX chip, will cost from £900 (plus VAT) and are designed to compete with the cheap PCs that have eroded IBM's market.

This week, the company briefed hundreds of computer dealers on the new products, although it expects a third of them to be sold through mail order. They will also be available in high street stores.

IBM has long wanted a larger share of the cheaper end of the personal computer market but has been reluctant to sell cheaper machines directly in case it deterred customers from buying its existing models, which command premium prices for the

IBM name and support. The company hopes that by staying in the background and using a subsidiary, it will get the best of both worlds.

The computers, which include two or four megabytes of memory, will come with the DOS.5 operating system and Microsoft Windows 3.1.

The go-ahead was given for the project last year, but only last month, James Cannavino,



who runs IBM's PC division, indicated that the company would sell such machines only if it took a stake in a company that was already doing so.

There is concern within IBM that if it is seen as too close to the cheap computers, which will be made largely in Asia, it may reflect badly on its brand image.

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More digits in musical pie

George Cole reports on the impending war between two new audio formats

Release dates announced for two new audio formats should mean that both will be jostling for a position on the shelves of Britain's stores by Christmas. The formats, digital compact cassette (DCC) and mini disc, are designed to replace the audio cassette in a market worth billions of pounds.

However, history shows that two formats rarely co-exist in the same market, and the question is which customers should choose — and whether they will be prepared to pay the price premium that either format will command.

Ordinary cassettes record sound as an analogue waveform, but DCC and mini disc work more like a compact disc and store music as a digital code.

DCC has been co-developed by the Dutch consumer electronics company Philips and the Japanese electronics company Matsushita, the parent company of Panasonic and Technics.

The format stores compact disc quality sound on a cassette and offers several convenient features, including a system which helps users find tracks quickly and easily.

Philips argues that DCC's winning feature is that it is "backwards compatible" with ordinary cassettes, meaning that customers who buy a new DCC deck will be able to play analogue cassettes as well as digital tapes, although DCC tapes cannot be played on existing cassette decks.

"The public is getting fed up with new systems that force them to junk their existing record collection and start all over again," David Munns, a senior vice-president at the record company Polygram International, says. "You don't have to do that with DCC."

Mini disc is the invention of Sony, the Japanese consumer electronics company. The format stores over an hour of near compact disc quality sound on a 2.5in disc which is kept inside a protective jacket.

Some mini disc systems will also be able to record and all will include a "jog-proof" system which enables the music to play normally when the machine is jolted or knocked. However, mini disc is not compatible with existing compact discs.

The music industry divides customers for audio products into two groups — home and portable. Home users listen to music on a stereo system that is

'Consumers are looking for a new portable sound system'

often found in the living room. Portable users listen to music in other places, for example, on a beach or in a car.

Although the compact disc is replacing the vinyl LP record, it has not had the same impact on the portable market. Only one fifth of the 120 million CD players worldwide are portable units.

Most consumers still use cassettes for portable audio. Research suggests that users

find 5in CDs too bulky to carry around and they are also reluctant to use their expensive discs outside the home.

In 1990, 180 million cassette decks were sold worldwide, and almost 90 per cent of these were mobile units, such as personal stereos and in-car systems.

But cassette tape sales are declining. The music industry claims consumers are growing tired of the audio cassette, which was introduced by Philips in 1963, and want digital quality sound for both home and portable listening. However, the first two portable digital stereo systems did not sell.

Several years ago, Sony introduced a 3in CD which played on compact portable units but consumers found the discs fiddly to use and each disc could only store up to 20 minutes of music.

In 1990, digital audio tape (DAT) was launched in Europe and America. The system can store several hours of high quality digital sound on a credit card sized cassette.

DAT machines are expensive — about £500 — and there is little pre-recorded music available. It has become a very specialised area, of interest mainly to real hi-fi buffs and professional markets such as broadcasters and music studios.

Not surprisingly, both Philips and Sony claim that this time they have got it right. "We learnt a lot from experience with digital audio tape," Gerry Wirtz, Philips DCC project manager, says. "The hardware and tapes were expensive to make and the record companies didn't like the fact that DAT recorders had no anti-copy system."

DCC and mini disc both use an anti-copy system, which is approved by the record industry and will prevent more than



Spin doctor: Eric Kingdom of Sony UK with mini discs

one digital copy being made. Philips has opted for an evolutionary path — DCC uses familiar tape technology and remains linked to the audio cassette.

By comparison, Sony's mini disc is a revolutionary technology. "Consumers are looking for a new portable sound system," Eric Kingdom, technical information manager of Sony UK, maintains. "Quite frankly, it will take more than

a digital cassette to get them excited."

The first DCC, which will be launched in Britain in September by Philips, will offer both recording and playback and will cost about £350. Sony's mini disc players will cost £250 for machines that cannot record and £330 with recording capability.

Blank DCC tapes and mini discs are expected to cost about £5 each.

Better rates for big business at the exchange

Competition and computers have spawned a new generation of versatile and flexible telephone services

Many people will have seen free-phone numbers advertised with a product or service. But 0800 numbers are not really free — the bill is paid by whoever is called.

Many organisations are willing to pay for the 0800 facility because they believe they will get more customers if a call is free.

Freephone numbers were made possible with the introduction of telephone exchanges that can work out whom to bill. As exchanges become more sophisticated, more services are offered. British Telecom, for example, now provides what it calls a virtual private network for big companies as an alternative to installing their own corporate networks.

Instead, all of their calls use BT's network, via two new exchanges, which can bill any call at a special rate.

According to John Grimmett, chief executive of Barclays Network Services, which has signed up Barclays Bank for the service, the issue was not just the capital investment, but also how best to cater for changes in banking. "It is obvious the banking business will look very different in 10 years," he says. "We want greater flexibility."

The service will connect to 900 Barclays branches, including 250 which are now connected to its private telephone network.

The introduction of these

services around the world has been boosted by the type of deregulation that Britain has experienced since 1984. Like British Telecom, national telephone operators such as Germany's Deutsche Bundespost Telekom and Telecom Australia are introducing these sorts of services in the hope they will retain customers who might otherwise move their business to new competitors.

In the United States, where a competitive environment already exists, a huge range of advanced telephone

communications has had a Centrex exchange for several years but has not promoted it widely. BT has also installed a Centrex facility but is not publicising the fact.

More services will follow. Telephone companies could allow their business customers to choose where calls should be sent according to the time of day — a company with an 0800 number might want calls to be answered in a different place after 6pm. There could also be a facility for the customer to tell the telephone system the new number by sending a message directly to the telephone company's computer.

Other options include a company being able to give out a single number to customers with the call sent automatically to the office, store or site nearest to the caller's location. Such networks can also translate a telephone number to the correct fax number if it detects that the call is from a fax machine, preventing annoyance to people who find someone thinks their personal telephone is a fax.

These services require a new type of telephone network architecture, often referred to as "advanced intelligent networks". The services they offer are likely to be a weapon in the battle for business customers as Britain gets more operators that are able to provide telephone networks.

In Britain, Mercury Com-



services has been available for some time. The regional Bell operating companies already use an exchange known as Centrex to provide some services.

These include the ability to program your phone to divert calls to any other phone. In a sense, you can tell the phone to follow you around or calls can be diverted to a messaging system.

In Britain, Mercury Com-

SARAH MACMILLAN

The cost of going to market

THE changes that will be required to some business computer systems when the European single market arrives will cost more than £200 million, according to KPMG, the business consultancy.

Many systems will have to be altered to provide export sales infor-

mation to the Customs & Excise when new European Community rules on reporting trade statistics start at the beginning of 1993.

The abolition of customs entry documents for much of EC trade means that businesses will have to provide much of the information at present extracted from about 60 million customs entries.

African star

THE Ivory Coast has won a battle against Nigeria to be the headquarters of a regional telecommunications organisation dedicated to putting the first African satellite into space.

African telecommunications ministers attending a two-week meeting in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, ruled last week that the Regional African Satellite Communications System (RASCOM) headquarters should be set up in Abidjan.

RASCOM aims to put a satellite into space in five years at a projected cost of more than £250 million.

The decision was a setback for Nigeria, which wanted the headquarters in its new capital, Abuja.

Copper capacity

PARADYNE, a subsidiary of the giant telecommunications company AT&T, says it has developed a technology that gives copper wires almost the same transmission capacity as fibre-optic cables.

The development combines computer hardware and software to speed data transmission over copper telephone lines, the staple of most local telephone services.

Colour at b+w prices.

Two pieces of news from Morse. 1) Major price reductions on AST's colour laptops. A Premium Exec 386SX/25C with 60MB disk is now £1981. 2) Morse include at no charge a 2350 internal data/fax modem on this and certain other models. Our Holborn laptop centre awaits your call. Prices subject to VAT at 17.5%.

MORSE

78 High Holborn, London WC1. 071-881 0644

This is the computer that Lynn built!



When a Bournemouth freelance Pub and Club interior designer needed a computer for her business she didn't buy a PC, but a book on how to build one.

"Until I read the book, I could just about mend a fuse, now I've built my first computer, a 486 model with 130 Mb Hard Disk and 8 Mb of RAM. I spent two evenings reading the book to find out how all the various bits went together, then I had a couple of rehearsals with the components before I started. In the end it took me about seven hours. When the computer came on it was a wonderful feeling.

As well as saving money I had learnt a lot about what goes on inside computers."

BUILD or UPGRADE YOUR OWN COMMERCIAL PC COMPUTER
(286, 386, 486)

There's more to building your own IBM compatible PC than cost savings alone. It's fun and a challenge well within the reach of any DIY enthusiast.

Indeed, other than the initial investment in a simple-to-follow manual, the only tools required are two screwdrivers, a pair of needle-nosed pliers, some sticky labels, requires no soldering and only 12 bits needed to complete a computer.

"Build or Upgrade Your Own PC"

includes everything you need to know to build a personal computer as high as a 486 specification. As well as illustrated assembly instructions, the book explains what hardware options are available, what each component does and gives advice on what is likely to suit the user's long-term requirements.

The components are all produced generically from leading manufacturers and are ordered from a catalogue supplied with the manual. So the end result is a commercial

computer but without a badge.

If the machine fails to come to life after following all the instructions, the company guarantees to get it working.

As Lynn Seager discovered, it takes less than a weekend to be able to say, "I've built my own computer".

Millstream

Millstream Publications, 12 Albany Business Park, Cabot Lane, Poole, Dorset, BH17 7VX. Telephone No. 0202 653887.

The book is available from the publisher for £18.50 + £1.50 p&p. If the buyer is not satisfied within 14 days of purchase the £18.50 is refundable on return of the book. Allow 28 days for delivery. To: Millstream Publications, 12 Albany Business Park, Cabot Lane, Poole, Dorset, BH17 7VX. Please send me a copy of the manual "Build or Upgrade Your Own PC".

Name _____
Address _____
I am enclosing payment by cheque or postal order or payment may be collected from my VISA/ACCESS Card. Expiry Date / /
Card No.:

Boatman confident her team is adequately prepared to regain Curtis Cup

Women can halt one-way traffic

BY MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THE recent domination by the United States in international golf can be underlined by Great Britain and Ireland in the Curtis Cup which starts at Hoylake today.

The signs are that the home team has prepared so meticulously for this fascinating contest that Elizabeth Boatman, the captain, has every reason to feel confident of regaining the cup from the Duke of York tomorrow afternoon. If she does, it would reverse a trend, because in the last nine months the Americans have regained both the Ryder and Walker cups.

The Duke of York points out in the programme for the Curtis Cup that "no longer is an American victory almost a formality, whether the event be the Ryder Cup, the Walker Cup or the Curtis Cup".

After the wonderful win at Prairie Dunes in 1986, Great Britain and Ireland retained the Curtis Cup in 1988, but the United States regained it with some ease two years ago. They won all six singles on the final afternoon at Somerset Hills, New Jersey, to complete a 14-4 triumph.

Elaine Farquharson, Julie Hall, Catriona Lambert and Vicki Thomas, as members of that team, will have good reason to raise their games over the next two days. If there is faith and hope in their hearts, I suspect there will be precious little charity.

The Curtis Cup remains a shining example of all that is good about sport, but the desire of the Great Britain and Ireland players is emphasised by their preparation for the match.

For the inaugural match in 1932, the Great Britain and Ireland team arrived at Wentworth at tea-time on the day before and unexpectedly lost. "It was a complete disaster through lack of organisation

on our part," Enid Wilson, a member of the side, said.

Boatman, however, has seen to it that the 1992 team is ready to regain the cup. "We will be going out in a very positive frame of mind," she said. "The intention is to make a good start to shake the Americans rigid."

Boatman believes her players have improved by competing in the United States, where Lambert earlier this year became the first non-American to win the Doherty Cup matchplay title.

Thomas, the most experienced player on the Great Britain and Ireland team, thinks the foursome partnerships hold the key.

"Ours have been very impressive during our four days here," she said. "Claire Hourihane and Joanne Morley were five under in their match."

The heavy rain which fell for the best part of yesterday failed to dampen the spirits. The course has been well prepared, with the fairways tight in places, but the United States team appears equally confident.

Judy Oliver, the US captain, said she had made a point of getting to know her players before leaving for Britain.

"For instance, I didn't know Amy Fruhwirth or Tracy Hanson," she said. "So I went to California, where we played for two days in the freezing cold, wind and rain. I think that was a good omen."

The feeling is that the match will be a close encounter of the kind that Great Britain and Ireland can win.

ORDER OF PLAY (all and trained names from today's fourfoursomes): 3.30 J Hall and C Hall v A Fruhwirth and V Goetze; 4.45 J Thomas and G Lambert v L Strickland and S Ingram; 10.0 J Morley and C Hourihane v J Hanson and C Thompson. Singles start 5.0. Tomorrow: Foursomes start 8.30. Singles start 12.0.

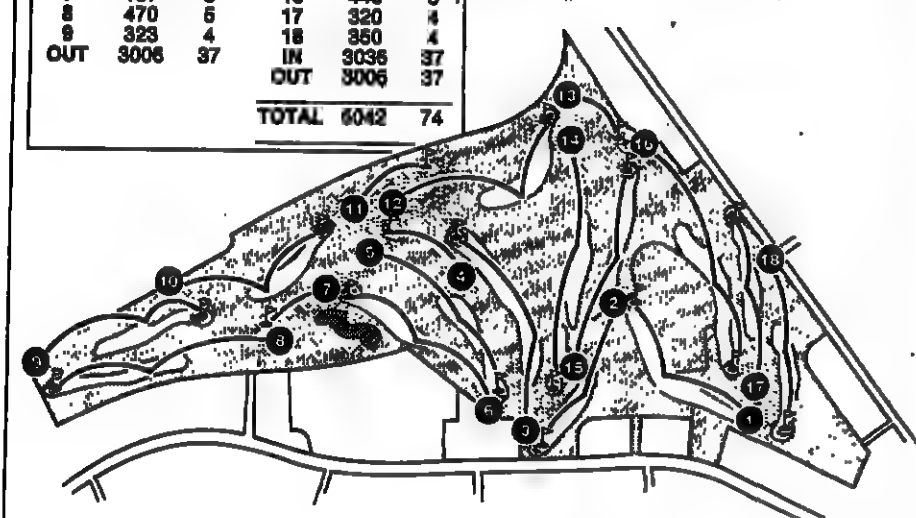


Key player: Claire Hourihane, whose foursome contribution could be critical

HOLE	YARDS	PAR	HOLE	YARDS	PAR
1	406	5	10	355	4
2	330	4	11	170	3
3	482	5	12	367	4
4	123	3	13	157	3
5	383	4	14	460	5
6	352	4	15	417	5
7	157	3	16	440	5
8	470	5	17	320	4
9	323	4	18	350	4
OUT	3006	37	IN	3036	37
			OUT	3006	37
TOTAL 6042 74					

CURTIS CUP

Royal Liverpool



Hall and Hall can steady opening nerves

BY PATRICIA DAVIES

THE first day of a Curtis Cup does funny things to people. One famous American, a great wag, stood on the first tee in the foursomes on the first day and wagged, even for her, for an age. "I don't think I can hit it," she hissed to her partner eventually. Her partner said nothing.

"I can't do it." "For God's sake, just hit it," she was ordered. Another waggle. "I can't hit it." You're gonna have to get up here and hit it. And, sure enough, her partner had to get up there and hit it. "We lost," she

reported. It was not even that Polly Riley, the warring wag, was in her first Curtis Cup.

She was an old and winning hand, but as Vicki Thomas, the most experienced member of the home side at Hoylake this year, confirmed yesterday, age does not do much to reduce the nervous tension. Asked how she had felt before her first match in 1982, she replied: "Probably exactly as I feel now — a bag of nerves."

She added that the young debutantes newcomers on her team, Caroline Hall, at 18 the youngest member on either side, and Nicola

Buxton, aged 19, seemed to ooze confidence. However, Hall, the English champion from Filton in Bristol, who had a migraine, will not have the supremely nerve-making test of driving off first for her team this morning. That job is earmarked for Julie Hall, her foursomes partner and room-mate but no relation, who is playing in her third successive match and had no doubts about her young partner's ability.

"I don't say this about many players, but this girl is high class," Liz Boatman, the captain, has no qualms about putting the Hall and Hall partnership out first.

Caroline Hall is starting to compile an impressive record but she is still overshadowed, as most players are, by a slight, quiet young woman from Georgia by the name of Vicki Goetze.

Goetze, aged 19, is the youngest member of the American side but one of the most successful. Having started off by winning the US women's amateur at the age of 16, she has already achieved more than most people manage in a career.

She was low amateur in the US Women's Open in 1989 and 1990, was the best individual in the women's world amateur team

championship two years ago and last Sunday won the national collegiate title for the first time. She has three more years left at the University of Georgia but conceded she might turn professional before graduating.

Goetze, who won three matches out of four on her Curtis Cup debut two years ago, was described by Carol Thompson, the American side's most senior member, as "a complete player, very strong mentally". Even she, however, will have a few nerves, well hidden, as she and Amy Fruhwirth go head to head with Hall and Hall this morning.

Saddlers' Hall has long wait for Cup triumph

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

SADDLERS' Hall beat the Derby winning time of Dr Devious by half-a-second in the Coronation Cup yesterday — but then had to wait an hour before he was confirmed the winner.

The stewards faced a near-impossible task of trying to determine who — or what — was responsible for a series of bumps and barges which owed more to stock car racing than the turf.

In the end the unique cambers and slopes of Epsom were probably the guilty party and the stewards were wise to leave the placings unaltered.

All the problems began just over two furlongs from home as the battle for the group one prize began in earnest.

The stewards decided that Terimon, ridden by Michael Roberts, had interfered with Sapience, the mount of Ray Cochrane, before Saddlers' Hall and Walter Swinburn ducked to the left as they struck the front — causing more interference to Sapience and forcing Cochrane to snatch up.

Subotica, who in turn suffered and also had to be snatched up, was the main victim and denied a clear run until it was too late.

Eventually, the stewards concluded "all the interference to have been accidental

and that no horse improved its placing."

No wonder Peter Steveny, secretary to the stewards, said afterwards: "It was a nightmare, made worse by the fact we had to have an interpreter for the French jockey."

Thierry Jarnet, Subotica's jockey, will have unhappy memories of his first ride at Epsom and he complained bitterly to the stewards that he would have won but for all the interference.

However, Andre Fabre, the colt's trainer, was more sanguine. "Maybe, the jockey was a bit too confident about coming round Tattenham Corner. He probably didn't want to go too wide and got boxed in."

As the enquiry progressed, two nervous punters invested £10,000 to win £1,000 and £5,000 to win £500 in the belief that Saddlers' Hall would keep the race.

With Rock Hopper finishing second, the £140,000 race was a triumph for Michael Stoute.

"Rock Hopper is a very good horse and I wish some of the press would eat humble pie and realise that," the trainer said.

As for the winner, Stoute commented: "This was his big test today in the group one race. Obviously, the King

George would be on the agenda." Looking further ahead, he confirmed: "The Arc must be on the cards."

Michael Roberts, a 100-1 shot for the jockey's championship at the start of the season, joined Pat Eddery on the 49-winner mark yesterday, following a 20-1 double.

He had victories on the Paul Kelleway-trained Iommelli and Clive Brittain's Etharisto, who is benefiting from running in plastic slip-on shoes which prevent the walls of his hooves cracking.

Dr Devious has been given an official rating of 127 following his Derby success, 5lb below the mark allocated to Generous last year, but around the average for a premier classic winner.

Anthony Arkwright, the Jockey Club's middle-distance handicapper, said yesterday: "All the leading horses did run well and I think the ratings for this race will go up as the season progresses."

"There have been other Derbys which have been rated higher but which, in the end, did not justify the rating when the runners met older horses or each other. We will see one or two at least of this year's runners off a higher mark. Dr Devious in particular."

Cole criticises Epsom officialdom

PETTY and unnecessary officialdom which all too often pervades British racing was blamed yesterday for the dismal Derby day crowd (Richard Evans writes).

Paul Cole, the champion trainer, said: "You have got all these guards, officials and policemen telling people what to do the whole time and they don't feel comfortable. The atmosphere is going."

"They want to open the thing up and get a car park for the cars, make the general public welcome and have decent facilities. They should do away with members' and have one big stand, as they do in America."

"All these restrictions don't make people feel at home or welcome. No-one wants to be shoved around and be told to do this or that."

"You only have to look at Windsor. It may not be the greatest racetrack in the world, but people turn up in their droves because of the atmosphere and general ease of the place."

The Derby day attendance of 21,000 — down 6,000 on last year's recession-hit crowd — was a bitter blow for United Racecourses, following the opening of the new £9 million Queens Stand. Major Michael Webster, clerk of the course, blamed the decline on the recession.

But the state of the economy is not the sole reason and I believe Cole is far nearer the mark. Racing, to use the modern jargon, is not user-friendly. This year's Derby meeting is certainly lacking much of its charm and appeal.



Cole: public should be made to feel welcome

Silver Wisp eyes King George

THE Derby third, Silver Wisp, will be kept to middle distances with the King George and Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Stakes as his mid-season target and, initially, the Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud on July 5.

Geoff Lewis, his trainer, didn't think his stable star, said the mile-and-a-half, but yesterday said: "I was a bit too quick to blame the trip. He made two runs and from the position he started had a lot to do. It is difficult to make one challenge and then have to make another."

Richard Hannon has taken blood tests from Assessor, one of the big disappointments of

the Derby when finishing thirteenth.

"I was gutted. It was an incredible disappointment and he has been blood-tested. He was knocked down and I think the other horses took liberties with him," the trainer said.

"There is a vague chance we may try him in blinkers next time, but we don't want him to go the wrong way. The Irish Derby is a possible target."

The Budweiser classic could also attract fourth-placed Muhtarram, though John Gosden will also consider the Eclipse Stakes.

"He is a horse that likes to

bounce off the ground and there was not much bounce in the good-to-soft straight," he said.

"Polen Count got banged about and didn't handle the hill. At one point I thought he would end up in the fairground. I have a group one race in Germany in mind for him."

Non-stayers Alnash Alwasheek, Great Palm and Rainbow Corner will all be dropped back in distance.

Great Palm will head for the mile-and-a-quarter Grand Prix de Paris on June 28 when he could clash with Arazi, while Rainbow Corner will revert to a mile.

SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

Hinton has slimmed into medal prospect

BY ALIX RAMSAY

TRACEY Hinton, a blind runner from Cardiff, has emerged as one of Britain's best hopes for a medal at the Paralympics. Last September she returned from the European championships with a bronze medal. But since then, her times for the 100, 200 and 400 metres have shown a dramatic improvement.

The chief athletics coach, John Anderson, is astounded by Hinton's achievements. "Two years ago I sat her down and told her that she was overweight and did not stand a chance of selection for anything," he recalled. "A short while later a slim young lady appeared in front of me and said: 'I've lost two stones. Let's start now.'"

Hinton, 5ft 3in, joined Weight Watchers and slimmed down to 8st 2lb

from 10st 11lb in six months. She works out every day on the track or in the gymnasium — breaking the monotony with runs over the Welsh hills — and her personal best times this season would have given her silver medals in all three distances at the last European championships.

This weekend she will be assessing her progress at Wolverhampton where the British championships are taking place.

Last October she started working with a new guide runner, Bernard Chestney, a former Army PT instructor. "I advertised in the local newspaper and he came forward," she said. "It takes time to get to know each other but Bernard has really helped me with my confidence and with new exercise routines."

Ireland gamble on Danaher

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, IN WELLINGTON

TO THE surprise of all those who have watched Ireland train this week, Philip Danaher was chosen yesterday to captain the side in the final tour match, against New Zealand at Athletic Park here tomorrow. Whether he takes the field to win his twelfth cap, however, remains open to conjecture.

Danaher sustained medial knee ligaments in the tour's opening match, lasted 38 minutes of Saturday's international and has trained little since. But his inspirational qualities have persuaded the tour management, perhaps ill-advisedly, to retain him. Noel Murphy, the manager, left an escape route when he said: "He will play if everything goes well for us."

It is a calculated gamble against a group of New Zealand players whose fires have been stoked by criticism

RUGBY UNION

Ireland gamble on Danaher

since the sub-standard display of the first international, which they won 24-21. They are aware of Danaher's difficulties and will not hesitate to capitalise upon them.

The Irish management is also aware of the campaign to put pressure on Sandy MacNeill, the referee. It has been claimed that MacNeill, Australia's leading official, ignored Irish infringement at lineouts and offside in loose play in Dunedin, and that the All Blacks felt too inhibited by the threat of disciplinary action — from televised evidence — to formulate their unwritten "ground rules".

The return of Michael Brewer, at flanker, should go a long way towards tightening their approach. Ireland will seek to vary their tactical approach to see how adaptable this All Blacks team is. They have confounded their

critics once to do so again may be beyond Ireland's scope.

England's B party arrived in Christchurch yesterday and trained immediately to counter travel weariness. The party of 30 will be completed over the weekend with the arrival of Graham Dawe and Damien Hopley.

Neither will play in the first game of the eight-match tour, at Oamaru on Wednesday against North Otago.

NEW ZEALAND: M Cooper, J Kneen, F Bunc, E Clapham, J Timu, W Little, A Brash, S McDermott, S Ripstein (captain), O Brown, M Brown, R Brooke, J Jones, M Jones, A Penn, replacements: V Tagame, G Fox, J Preston, G Dami, S Lunn, P Henderson. IRELAND: J Shuprie, R Camp, P Danaher (capt), V Conboy, M Puring, P Russell, M Bradley, N Poppo, S Smith, P McCarthy, M Givney, B Rigney, J Jones, M Flanagan, B Robinson, replacements: K Murphy, J Clarke, F Ahern, T Kingston, G Heppin, P Kerney.

David Sole, the Scotland captain, will not play against New South Wales tomorrow after injuring his left knee.

SOUTHWELL

2.30 Palacete Racing. 3.00 Madam Cyn's Risk. 3.30 Alderbrook. 4.05 Verano. 4.35 Qualitair Rhythm. 5.05 Prince of Darkness.

THUNDERER
2.30 Palacete Racing. 3.00 Nibswaldy. 3.30 Alderbrook. 4.05 Verdant Boy. 4.35 Sandmoor Denim. 5.05 Digby Doyle.

GOING: STANDARD
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.30 EATON HANDICAP
(£2,265: 5f) (14 runners)

1 1180 MAID WELCOME 7f (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
2 1180 MID QUARTER 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
3 1180 SERIOUS HARRY 13 (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
4 1180 LADY OF THE FEN 13 (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
5 1180 HENRI VIDEO 7f (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
6 1180 PALACETE RACING 35 (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
7 1180 SUPERATHEWAS 13 (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
8 1180 NORTH OF WATFORD 18 (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
9 1180 JUSTAMANDA 25 (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
10 1180 SARA ANNE 13 (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
11 1180 WATFORD STAR 25 (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
12 1180 FIGHTER SQUADRON 13 (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
13 1180 RAY EXPRESS 30 (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
14 1180 SODDERING THOUGHTS 35 (10.0) 5f 11.5 M. Macdonald 5-10-0
4-11 Hest Video, Palacete Racing, 6-1 Superatthewas, 7-1 Fighter Squadron, 10-1 Quarter, 10-1 others.

3.00 BELGRADE SELLING STAKES
(£2,000: 2f, 3f, 4f) (13)

1 5000 GET DAILY SPORT 9 P. Kellaway 8-6
2 5000 PEAK FITNESS 20 J. Glover 8-11
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86 5000 GET DAILY SPORT 9 P. Kellaway 8-6
87

RACING 31

CUSWAYS 14 (3F) Mrs J Cecil 90 Paul Eddery 9
 CUSWAY M McCormick 80 J Reid 80
 CUTHBERT G F Leighton 80 A McGlone 15
 CUTHBERT G Leigh 90 J Bousie 11
 CUTHBERT DAVY M Leighton 90 R Harrison 69 10
 CUTHBERT R Johnson Houghton 80 A Munro 4
 CUTHBERT G P Mitchell 90 M Roberts 1
 CUTHBERT G C Oyster 90 J Quinn 8
 CUTHBERT T Houghton 89
 CUTHBERTS J J Alkshun 8
 CUTHBERTS S Dowe 89 W Ryan 14
 CUTHBERT J Dunlop 89 T Quinn 13
 CUTHBERT Lady Herries 89 J Williams 7
 CUTHBERT 11-4 Mysterious Ways, 7-2 Underholt, 7-1
 1-3 Mrs West, 14-1 others.

2000 JEWELLERS STAKES
 6f (9)
 JEWELLERS J Dunlop 9 J Reid 8

MAY 17 J Hls 9-1 N Cochrane 9
 5 YEARS 20 M Channon 8-6 B Rouse 3
 INVITATION 11 (F) G Lewis 8-6 (Seal)
 *Public Entry 2*
 LLETON 18 D Arbuthnot 8-5 T Oulien 5
 NOUVEST 18 P Cole 8-3 J D Smith (7)
 LIGHTNING 18 P Wabynn 7-7 A Mackley 7
 11 (R) C Benstead 7-7 T Williams 4
 18 M L Macgregor 7-7 J Dunn 1
 Formal Invitation 3-2 M Poppleton, 11-2
 since conquest. 10-1 others.

MIN STAKES (£1,725-7) (14)
 SINGING 25 (D,L,S) W Musson 4-9-11
 B Horvath 1
 MITCHELL 6 (V,D,F,G) M Channon 5-11 (7m)
 N Cochrane 10
 DREAMER 6 (F,F) Mrs Barbara Waring 4-11
 N Howe 11
 N SINDENCE 153 (D,F,G) H Collingridge 4-9-2

7 JULYER (C,F) 8 Gubby 59-1 J Williams 9
 BID 17 (C,F) 9 Harrison 390 J Reid 4
 12 (C,F) 9 McKel 40-8 T Quinn 6
 BULE 15 (C,F) W Carter 490 M Hunt 16
 10 (C,F) 9 Gower 394 P Williams 13
 22 (C,F) 9 Gower 394 M Roberts 3
 PRINCE 21 (C,F,G,S) 1 Cornell 68-1 A Munro 2
 11 (C,F,G,S) 1 Cornell 68-1 M Adams 8
 WILSON 41 D Shaw 677 D Begg 67
 10 (C,F) 9 Gower 394 T Williams 5
 N 181 (B) 9 Butler 437 T Williams 5
 5-1, Hopeful Bid, 6-1 Tame Dust, 7-1 Lady
 Lovers, 10-1 Rise Up Singing, 12-1 Others

S HARRISON STAKES

UNFINVED 7 (C,D,B,F,G) R Hodges 49-10
 10 (C,F,G) 9 McKel 40-8 J Reid 4
 13 (C,F) 9 Harrison 390 M Roberts 3
 17 (C,F) 9 Butler 437 T Williams 5

P-2 The Noble Oak, 11-2 Musval, 12-1
 VN SPARK 20 (G,Q) C Thorton 4-5-11
 POET 282 (G,S) M H Easterly 5-8-10
 L PRINCESS 8 (CD,F,G) R Hohnsche
 5-8-8 Pat Eldery 6
 Gemt, 5-1 Crystal Jack, Macfarlane, 13-2
 Hensai Princess, 10-1 others.
 POSE HANDICAP
 3: 1m 21 (20yd) (20)
 EN 283 Mex L Perrati 4-12-0 Linda Perratt 9
 PRINCE 14 (D,B,F,G) M Mire 1-1-12 R
 OWNS TO RIO (4) A Nigra 1-1-12 Hsie 8
 POT 14 (V,CD,S) Dams Smith 4-10-13
 Pauline Robinson 20

[illegible]

10, 11-2 Hemlock Prince, 5-1 Old Peg, Lots
10, 1-1 Smoke, 12-1 others.

ASHFIRE LIFE MAIDEN STAKES

CAVALIER 13 F Lee 9-0 A Cuthners 9
LOUIE M K Esterly 9-0 K Darley 6
Thomson Jones 9-0 B Raymond 11
Thornhill 9-0 A Hill 5

FR SHALOT P Chapple-Hym 9-0
D Holland 8

OW TIME 13 Mrs V Acornley 9-0
P Burris 7-0

BANK 19 G Pritchard-Gordon 9-0 C Carter 10
Stavely 9-0 W R Swinburn 2
GEORGE M H Esterly 9-0 M Birch 4
TYLER L Corns 9-0 L Dettori 1
Duffell 9-0 W Carson 3

Thel, 9-2 Hermann, 11-2 Wulff, 8-1 Knight
10-1 Harpoon Louis, 20-1 others.

CK HANDICAP

(4)

20	22 (5) B Jones 9-7	N Day 2
37	35 (9-3) T Barron 9-5	Alex Greenleaf 1
1	32 M Tompkins 8-8	P Robinson 3
11 (7) J Watts 7-12 (3rd)	J Lowe 4	

Cycle, 9-2 Special Button, 5-1 Millador.

9-2 Special Button, 5-1 Millador.

...den, 11 winners from 37 runners
...den, 14 from 54, 25.5%: M Ball, 5
...den, 15 from 65, 20.1%, P Walwyn, 8
...den, 12 from 65, 18.5%
...den, 33 winners from 129 rides, 25.6%:
...den, 23.1%, W R Swinburn, 11 from 67,
...den, 14 from 92 15.2%, D Nicholls, 7 from
...den, 19 from 144, 13.2%

2.25 (5-1), **ROCK SYMPHONY** (J Fortune, 4-1), **Saint Express** (A Cuhane), 1.50 (5-1), **Ceana** (G Butfield), 10 (5-1), **ALSO RAN** 9, **Law Lord** (O'Brien), 7.2
Boston's Return (51), **8 Gloving Wave** (2),
 10 **Norstar**, 33 **Whisperlades**, 8 **Ran**, 21
 21 41 41 **Ak Scott** at **Newmarket** Total
 1.00, 11.50, 11.00, 11.20, 11.20, 11.20, 11.20
 11.80
 1.00 (7/100yd), **MAJOR MUD**
MA Cuhane, 7-1, **American Hero**
J Weaver, 5-1, 3, **Straw Thatch** (Dean
 Mackown, 5-1) **ALSO RAN** 11-4 **Law**
Kummal King (41), 5 **Velocite** (51), 9 **Giant**
100 Yards, 10 **Peppers**, 25 **Fleashy's Son**, 51
Prospect (51) 9 **Ran** 41, 41, 21, 21, 21, 21
W Hail at **Melton** Total: 6.20, 2.20, 2.20,
 2.20, 11.60, 11.60, 11.60, 11.60, 11.60, 11.60
 11.60
 1.35 (1m 3f 25yd), **TORCHON** (M Hells,
 4-1), 2, **Spinning** (S O'Gorman, 2-1), 3

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CATERICK	102	202	302
SOUTHWELL	103	203	303
HATDOCK PK	104	204	304
GOODWOOD	105	205	305
KILLARNEY	120	220	320
GREYHOUNDS	122	222	322

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The French magician looking for a final trick



Korda: eager to please

The headline in *L'Equipe*, the national sports daily, was unequivocal. The picture beneath was near life-size. *Il est magique*. Henri Leconte had done it again, grabbing the senses of the French public, jangling, twisting and shaking them until, at the end of a dramatic quarter-final against Nicklas Kulti, every drop of emotion had been wrung from the crowd on the stadium court.

After the fall of five seeds in one day, the bottom half of the draw at the French Open

had been dismissed as a haven for innocents and unknowns. No one truly believed that Leconte could carry his wild card into the semi-finals and, in beating Michael Stich and then coming back from two sets down against Kulti, light up an event in danger of disappearing beneath the sturdy shadow of the top seed and world No. 1, Jim Courier.

Yet, here he is, aged 28 and ranked 200 in the world, in his third semi-final at Roland Garros, still serving and volleying on clay when other

Henri Leconte, France's tennis favourite, is delighting the nation again, Andrew Longmore reports from Paris

more fancied exponents of the art have fallen by the wayside, still sketching the outlines of an improbable dream.

Today, Leconte meets Petr Korda, the No. 7 seed, who is as talented and nearly as erratic as Leconte himself. "I

will just try to play my best and make the people happy," Korda said. Losing his first grand slam semi-final would be the only way he could do that.

After three operations on his back, which threatened his career, Leconte claims to

be a more philosophical and relaxed creature these days. He has also developed a stronger relationship with the notoriously fickle French public. Should he reach the final and should he be mauled by Courier, which is quite possible, he is guaranteed a more sympathetic hearing — after his exploits in the Davis Cup final — than four years ago when he collapsed to Mats Wilander in the final. He, no longer, has anything to prove, except perhaps to Yannick Noah, the last Frenchman to win

the title, nine years ago. With due respect to Courier, whose ruthless dismissal of the opposition "the assassin" in the local press, the ideal final would pit Andre Agassi against Leconte, two showmen together. Unwisely, given that the champion will need no extra motivation to put one across his old rival again, Agassi has implied that Courier is more work-horse than thoroughbred. "I don't think he has a lot of natural ability to fall back on," he said. "He is a hard

worker, who is strong mentally. I rely a lot more on my ability." Yet Agassi, the No. 11 seed, is only too aware of the importance of today's encounter, their fourth in four years at Roland Garros. Defeat by Courier in Paris last year precipitated a crisis of identity in the young Las Vegas, which has prompted a dramatic slide out of the top ten from which he is only just beginning to emerge. Another loss and Agassi's delicate psyche could suffer permanent damage.

Lloyd's declaration sets up fine finish

Sussex scamper home in gloom for first victory

By JACK BAILEY

HOVE (final day of three): Sussex (22pts) beat Warwickshire (8) by two wickets

THERE were five lights shining on the scoreboard, which is about as dark as it gets, and only one ball remaining when Sussex scampered home with the aid of a bye and with two wickets to spare. It was an extraordinarily thrilling finish to an extraordinary match, and those of us who saw it will be pondering the twists and turns for a long time to come without reaching a logical answer.

The match rose like some phoenix from the ashes when Lloyd decided, against all previous trends, to declare and set Sussex to score 250 runs at slightly more than five an over on a good pitch. Sussex are nothing if not good Sunday afternoon sloggers, and by giving them this opportunity, Lloyd was testing their strength and tempting the fates.

Considering the truculence that had been present throughout the morning's play, Lloyd's was a surprising decision. When it is also considered that Donald, the terror of the first innings was

COUNTY TABLE						
	P	W	L	D	SI	Pts
Hampshire	8	3	0	3	20	88
Northants	10	3	1	2	14	77
Somerset (17)	8	3	1	3	19	70
Durham	10	3	1	2	14	70
Warwickshire (8)	3	2	3	0	14	64
Notts (4)	3	2	3	0	16	11
Gloucestershire (8)	3	2	3	0	16	11
Gloucestershire (8)	3	2	3	0	16	11
Leicestershire (15)	3	2	3	0	16	11
Sussex (11)	3	2	3	0	16	11
Kent (6)	3	2	3	0	16	11
Essex (11)	3	2	3	0	16	11
Gloucestershire (12)	3	2	3	0	16	11
Leicestershire (12)	3	2	3	0	16	11
Yorkshire (14)	3	2	3	0	16	11
Surrey (5)	3	2	3	0	16	11
Warwickshire and Gloucestershire records include match abandoned without a ball bowled						

(1981 positions in brackets)



FRANCE p4
Watching
your language
at the
Académie



LIFE & TIMES

FRIDAY JUNE 5 1992

MOTORING p7.9

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CORRESPONDENT

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Bon chic bon genre bon temps à Big Ben

If Nicole Salinger did not exist, France
would have had to invent her — and
export her to London, to show
the English what they are missing

French style, as Stephen Bayley observed this week, extends to every corner of everyday life. But how does its elegance and tradition get packaged in human form in the unmistakable *femme française*? The minute Nicole Salinger opens the door she personifies those things best said in French: at 47 she is chic, blonde, mince and, if you put her among men, *faute*. She has a fine *balcon* of bosom, a tiny waist and excellent legs.

But as the woman uprooted from her native Paris to London finds, Englishmen simply do not seem to notice her allure, even when she talks, at once, of *amour*.

"All my life I have been surrounded by men who try to be charming and witty, and make you feel you are such a great lady, even if you are the ugliest thing in the world. Here you arrive and you are like a statue in the garden. Nobody pays any attention to you: you are totally ignored!"

She is wearing Chanel's *L'Egoïste* (for men) and a vibrant Guy Laroche frock with *flouzy* peplum, "very old, but you can wear it for 22 years". Mon dieu, I was glad I had put on my one and only Christian Lacroix (*prêt-à-porter*) which my children say looks like a fly agaric mushroom, but which Mrs Salinger could tell at once could not be English.

She had moved into this bijou rented house in Belgravia five days before so we sat in our canteen in the kitchen, where she said French women would never dream of sitting, having limitless coffee from an efficient machine (French: "My husband is crazy on coffee and coffee machines").

Her husband is Pierre Salinger, who sprang to international fame as President Kennedy's press secretary in 1960, and is now European chief of the American Broadcasting Company. Nicole, née Beauvillain, is his fourth wife.

The house is cluttered with things that will give it her style: a bust of Louis Quinze wearing a jaunty straw hat; a little Rodin bronze, a Boucher or two, an 18th-century French dining table and chairs — "But you see the lazy Susan on it is English. I am not flag, flag, flag. I love English things too." She thinks London is the most beautiful city (well, Belgravia is a particularly rarefied spot) but Mrs Salinger's job is to promote the best of French *artisanat* in the products of 70 companies forming the Comité Colbert, which wants the simple things of life: Champagne Krug; Hermès; Chanel; the Ritz; Glen and Limoges porcelain; Flammarion fine books. "All very upscale products, high fashion and grand luxe and expensive, to show that in France we are still for tradition and well-done work that takes many hours."

She was born into a well-heeled cosmopolitan family. In her youth she resembled Brigitte Bardot — "but we all did, with the long blonde hair and the big mouth. To me BB was just the daughter of my father's white-haired friend who would see at the Opéra." She failed her *bachot* — sat the wrong history paper — "but it was not a big problem. I was madly in love."

He was the dashing Comte de Menthon, from an old Savoyard family. "I met him at 15 and married when I was 19. I had my first child two weeks before being 20. Yes, I was a countess for about twenty years."

She learned Amer-English working at Time-Life and at NBC News, travelling the world and pausing to have the occasional son: Jean-Bernard, Emmanuel-Philbert and Alexandre. Then one day the count and countess took off with their young boys to sail round the world ("I always hated sailing and was afraid of the sea, but I like to sunbathe peacefully") on their racing yacht *Versouchka II*, built by the English craftsman of Camper and Nicholson at Gosport, Hampshire.

"We had been very sociable and a

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW



bit spoilt, with a beautiful apartment in Paris, a house in the south of France, a chalet in the mountains, and we were surrounded by people who were sort of sucking all our blood off us, and not giving us back so much.

"But when we started talking about boats and charts and seas and winds and harbours, people became very bored: so it was very good for a clean-up of our whole life. And when we came back after three years we found it was like we had been away two hours. Everybody had the same problems: the people who were supposed to be divorcing were still divorcing, people who were having lovers were still having lovers. And they don't want to hear about your adventures after the first two and a half minutes."

They lived in the Rue Lascase in the VII^e, five minutes from St Germain, and she ran her PR company with accounts like Louis Feraud, L'Oréal, and Guy Laroche. "Then one day Guy gave me a list of three journalists he wanted to meet and one was Pierre Salinger [then Paris bureau chief of ABC]. I said: 'This is totally ridiculous, he is never going to write anything about fashion or perfume.' But Guy insisted so I organised it, which was very difficult because Pierre was always away. Finally we fixed a lunch at one of the best Chinese restaurants in Paris, which has a fantastic *canard laqué*. And in comes Salinger."

It was the *coup de foudre* (there is no English equivalent). "Two days later he invited me to lunch and that was the beginning of the big love story. Such a big love story that a year later I left my husband and children, and went to live with him."

"I still love dearly my first husband but we married when I was so young, we didn't have the chance to live together as people do now. He was my first lover and that is always a little bit hectic. I was not in love with him, that's for sure. Also in France it is an old habit of everybody having lots of love affairs. So it is always complicated to handle a marriage this way."

Were you faithful? "Not at all!" she cries. "I don't know anybody in France, except my former parents-in-law, who have been faithful for 60 years. I never met anybody else who was. It is kind of nice in a way, if you don't fall in love. But my first husband and I had lots of crises. I



"The habits of English people are strange. I know it is an island, but to call Paris 'abroad!': mad-hatted Nicole Salinger and Louis Quinze reflect on the gulf of it all

'In France it
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So it is always
complicated
to handle
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this way'

couldn't stand it if he was having love affairs that were too serious, and he couldn't stand me having love affairs that were too serious. He is now living with another lady. Since Pierre I have never had any kind of affair. Which I find is much simpler."

"I didn't want to get married again, to be honest, because I am very Catholic, in my deep self, not a good Catholic, but very Catholic. And being the fourth wife of one's husband is very difficult. His previous wife was also French — Pierre is keen on French women — and also called Nicole. I should start a club for wives with the same names as the previous wives. I sometimes cope with it humouristically and sometimes it makes me mad, when people say, 'We have met before', and I say, 'No we haven't. Look, I am blonde, she has dark hair, she is much shorter, and she looks like a little girl even though she is older than I am.'"

She tells the story of Mr Salinger's first three marriages and four children. "His first wife was French Canadian. It was his first love story. When that marriage ended he was very unhappy. Pierre is the kind of person who can't stay unmarried for long. His second wife was very nice and took up the three children. But he became press secretary for Kennedy and that was difficult because she was a Republican. And that's when he met Nicole One, who literally jump on him, but that's the French woman for you: he married her on Saturday and his divorce came through on the Monday. I tell you he is crazy about getting married. And they had a son, but then they had a separate life for a long time, but he would not leave until his son was going to university. And at just the right time — *plouf!* — he met me, and we fell in love."

She cannot understand why. "My first husband was young, quite handsome, very wealthy. And I fell in love with an old, very usual, not very handsome — I mean fat, and not very wealthy man. How I did it? It means you never can tell. It's vibration. We got on very well."

When Mr Salinger became ABC's European chief and vice-president in London in 1989, she followed. "We went to a very good French fish restaurant, Le Suquet, and had a nice dinner and much too much wine, and when we came out I said, 'Well, if you still want to, I am ready to marry you.' And this stupid man, instead of jumping up and down, he said nothing. I had to call him back a few days later, and say what about it? They went to Chelsea Town Hall, she in another Laroche number, and held a tiny reception at the Hurlingham Club. "It was very small, we didn't ask anybody, just very very close friends, about 150 people."

In London she felt terribly lost. "I didn't know anything about the habits of English people which are so strange. I know it is an island, but to call Paris 'abroad! And I ruined my first year here, because when you are invited for the weekend six months ahead, I would never say yes because I have this terrible husband who catches a

plane every four days. But then I learn that it is better to say yes, and ring up at the last minute and say my husband has to go to the Gulf war. That is all right because then people think you are so important. And they mention to their other guests: 'So-and-so was supposed to come but he had to go somewhere.' "I love travelling with him but I am an open-mouth person, I like to say what I feel and think, and in some countries it would not be diplomatic." It is bad enough in London in the gentlemen's clubs.

"The Garrick club is charming but a woman cannot walk on this bit of carpet, there is a rope, like at Versailles. You may be used to it and think it natural, but I am used to being differently treated. You think, 'Do I smell bad? Am I going to pollute something?' I find it soally ridiculous. I realise men want their own room, but ... it means that English women have no pretension at all to being fancy, elegant, and sophisticated."

There are only about 400 women in London who go to these very chic lunches for Save the Baybee, Birthrights and all those. But most ladies at balls look as if they pull down a curtain from their window and wear it as a dress. To me it is not a dress but a curtain.

"And that is because men don't pay attention. You know that in the bed they might get excited, but it's not linked to your dress or your hair ... so what do women do? You go into gardening, or riding horses, and men are in another world, like the Left and Right Bank, while you look like a pot of flowers in your chintz curtains and have a nice quiet life."

Mrs Salinger would never drape a curtain over her figure, inherited from her *svette* mother. "And I take care. I don't drink strong alcohol. A little cassis from Mouton, the best cassis in the world. And I am very fanatic of the brothers Krug. A lot of people here give you supermarket champagne, which is quite nice, but I have the worst headache next morning. Quality makes the big difference."

"You will see in any village in the Pyrenees or the Massif Central, the young girls look cute: that is all due to *Elle* magazine in the 1950s: they are interested in how they look and have an eye for adding a little detail, even a plastic bangle" — she flourishes a red plastic bangle on her own wrist — "and *voilà!*"

"But I can walk down Beauchamp Place, very chic with make-up and jewels and I am looking at men, and if I was in France they would whistle and smile, but the English just run away." She blames segregated education, which makes girls giggly and men terrified.

Mrs Salinger prefers eating and talking to cooking, and love-making to both. Of that famous French institution the *cinq-a-sept*, she says: "It is really just a game, so easy and

natural, everybody does it. I had some French people to dinner in London and this guy starts playing with my knee and says: 'I like to meet you a little more privately.' Well, it's nice to be asked at 40 years old, but when I said I am faithful to Pierre, he said: 'How come? You are French!', and never spoke to me again."

"I have met just four Englishmen, including a Cambridge professor of economics, who remind me of what you call 'the continent', who are charming and witty and tell you you are clever and great but don't jump on you."

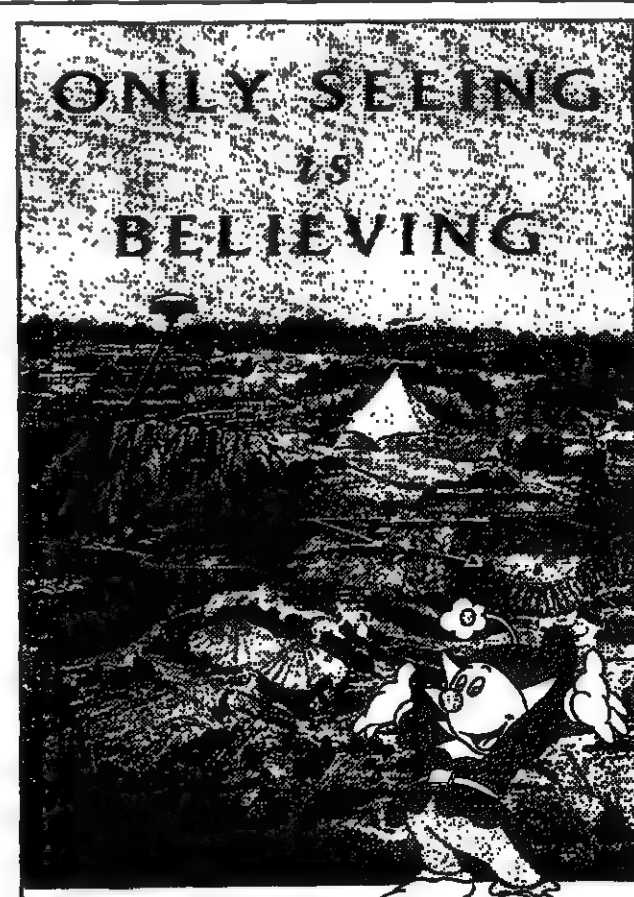
The telephone rings. She is brief: "Out, très bien, d'accord. Je t'embrasse. Au revoir."

She hangs up. "That was Pierre. You know he has to call me five times a day. Sometimes just to say, in Wimbledon so-and-so just lost the ball. Or, we change the restaurant we're going to have dinner! He gets so excited. He is like a little boy. He is going to be 67 on June 14 and I say no, more like seven."

There is another French expression that Mrs Salinger personifies: *joie de vivre*.

TOMORROW

How a small patch of
French earth changed
one man's life for ever



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In the kitchen: but Nicole Salinger would rather eat than cook

SCULPTURE

Something stirring in the forest

Sculptor Phillip King is exhibiting in a British open-air setting for the first time, and Richard Cork is impressed

When Phillip King was invited to stage a major retrospective in Yorkshire Sculpture Park, he must have been aware of the risks involved. Ever since he spent the first 12 years of his life in Tunisia, intoxicating memories of African light on Islamic architecture have nourished his work. The English landscape remained alien to him for a long time after he moved to London, and nothing could be more remote than his childhood environment than the Capability Brown-designed grounds at Bretton Hall.

But King accepted the challenge offered. He has, after all, never been afraid of starting the viewer. Talking about a provocative, 1962 fibreglass sculpture called *Rosebud*, he once made the declaration: "I want people to stand aghast for a second, and I hope they do it again and again."

"I want people to stand aghast for a second: I hope they do it again and again"

Rosebud itself, an audacious pink cone sliced down the front by a sly undulating aperture, has been confined to the Pavilion Gallery at the top of the site. So have several other pieces from the same early period, notable among them the rippling, reflecting and revolving *Twilight* with its extraordinary propeller-like shafts fanning out into the spectator's space. Blithe, cheeky, seductive and often brazenly exotic, King's youthful *jeu d'esprit* retain their exuberance intact.

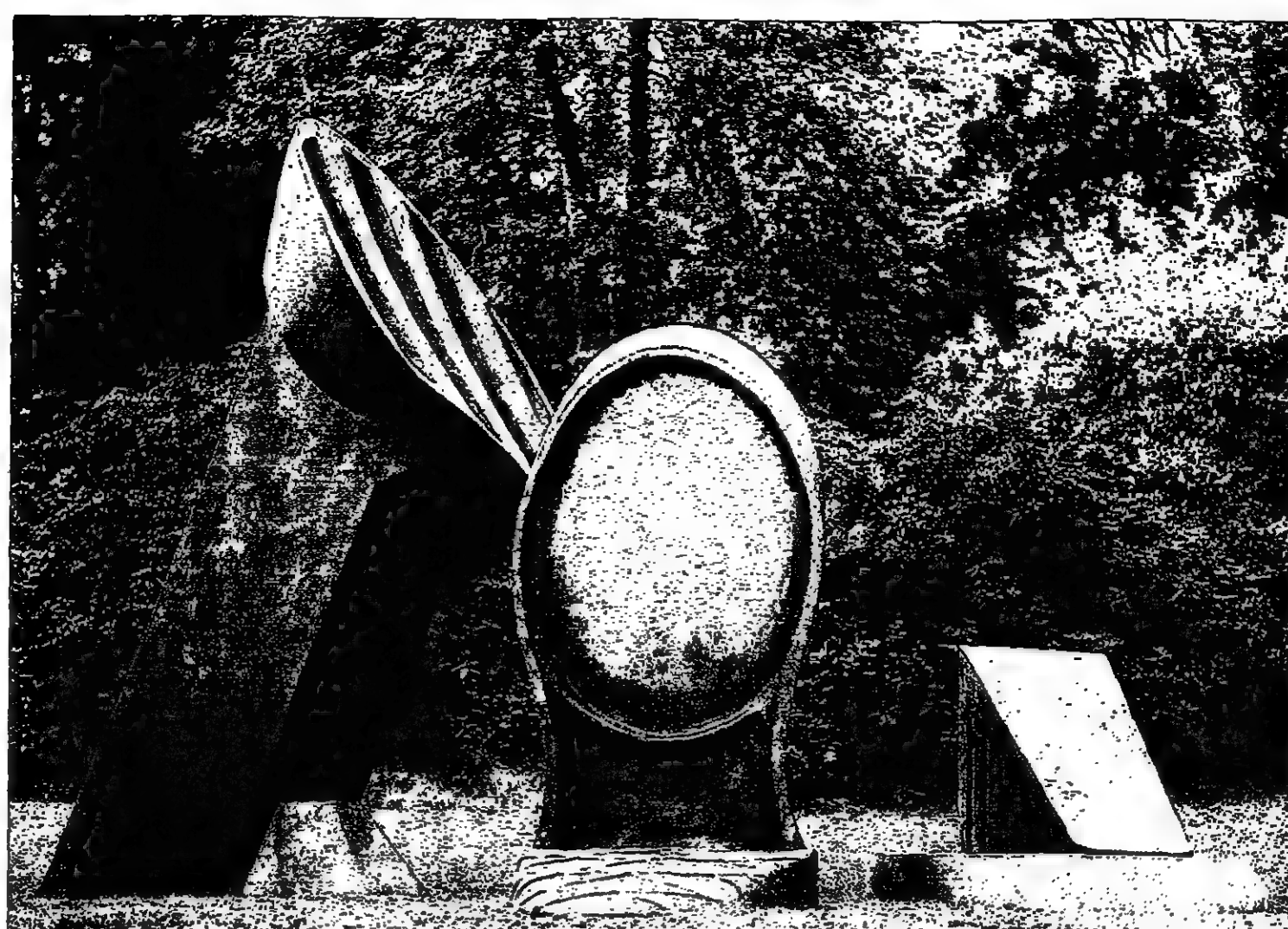
At the same time, though, even the most insolent of these sculptures

are underpinned by an imposing formal grandeur. King has always admired Brancusi, and perhaps that is why bravado is matched by rigour in all his finest work. Perhaps, too, this eye for tracing structural discipline helps the rest of his exhibits make the transition from their normal, indoor settings to the open green slopes leading from the Pavilion Gallery towards the lake.

Here King's art confronts its true testing ground. But any fears that his sculpture might prove too gaudy or ebullient for such an archetypally English locale are allayed by the first outdoor exhibit I encountered. If anything, *Sculpture 75* seems more

subdued than the surrounding parkland. Made of zinc-sprayed steel, Welsh slate, wood, cord and coloured tar, this severe structure contrasts with the lushness of the fully-flowered rhododendron bushes flourishing nearby. Only inside *Sculpture 75* does King allow himself to give the projecting pools of coloured tar a Rothko-like splendour. They almost appear to be responding to the flowers.

King, however, does not always feel obliged to adopt a respectful attitude towards nature. A little further down the slope, *Fire in Taurus* flares up in a tangle of aggressively brilliant yellow-painted steel. Jagged, tortuous and wilfully discordant, this angry eruption is as rasping as the saw-tooth edges running round one rectangular segment of the sculpture. The vehemence may owe something to



Striking a sober, even ominous note: Phillip King's *The Mirror, the Bean and the Aqueduct*, fibreglass version, 1989-90

the tragic accidental death of King's only son in the same year. If so, *Fire in Taurus* wrenchingly conveys the way grief can assault the bereaved with seismic ferocity. This time, the sculpture makes no attempt to honour the location.

The threat of imminent collapse shaking *Fire in Taurus* points to one of King's central preoccupations. However towering his work can be, the possibility of wholeness is undermined by a suspicion that something has been broken or lost. The theme appeared as early as 1965, when the pyramidal bulk of *Through* was assailed by King's decision to slice the form into eight segments separated by generous amounts of empty space.

In recent years, though, the obsession has taken on a more ominous note. *The Mirror, the Bean and the Aqueduct* is a three-part work occupying a clearing framed by banks of flowers and a bizarre, Disney-like tree-house. The setting's playfulness only emphasises the sobriety of King's forms. They look abandoned, even paralysed, and the

aqueduct in particular seems to be sinking. On the day of my visit, a recent downpour had left a pool of rain in the aqueduct's basin, accentuating this impression.

King has always been alert to painting, and the eerie dislocation in *The Mirror, the Bean and the Aqueduct* surely owes a debt to de Chirico's becalmed cityscapes. Another Surrealist, Max Ernst, comes to mind when looking at *Fire King No 4*, a bronze-coloured work sculpture inhabiting a large circular ironwork shelter. Completed only last year, this surprising piece shows how King has now confounded all expectations by starting to model figurative images. He has reverted to the kind of vigorously manipulated clay and plaster work with which his career began. *Fire King No 4* carries the force of an apostasy, suggesting that the sculptor has renounced the abstractionist language informing all his most celebrated achievements.

The rest of the exhibition proves

that King is essentially a robust optimist. Further down the lawns, an enormous steel structure from the mid-1970s called *Open* (red blue) bound rears from the ground. Despite the plentiful use of mesh, juxtaposed with painted plates which stir in the wind, memories of amphitheatres are roused. The final effect is far from melancholy. The deep reds and blues stress the sculpture's magisterial dignity, implying that the "ruin" possesses a fundamental resilience.

Each of King's densely considered works has a singular identity, and at the bottom of the slope *Spring-aling* goes off like a firecracker. Crazy convoluted, with wild arms of orange metal flying from a body twisted out of steelplate, mesh, cable and chain, it has an irresistible vivacity. King is here at his larkiest and the energy he releases in *Spring-aling* can also be found enlivening his most beefy, imposing pieces. *Shogun* is just such a colossus, revelling in the ability to give mighty limbs of wood and steel a ballistic animation.

Nearer the lake, another tree-cluster brings about the most astonishing change of all. For the trunks are ranged round a monumental work called *Span*, whose six upright or leaning components are usually associated with broken columns. Now, in this new location, they no longer look like the abandoned supports of a long-vanished temple. Instead, they appear at one with the trees, and the raindrops streaking their dark blue sides strengthened their air of natural inevitability.

So the exhibition ends up prompting a new reading of King's work. Far from highlighting the disparity between his foreign-born flamboyance and the English landscape, the park context proves how compatible they really are. An unexpected reconciliation has occurred, between King the outsider and a country he can at last call his own without reservation. His work belongs here, and he has come home.

● Phillip King Sculpture 1960-1991 at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Bretton Hall, West Bretton, near Wakefield, until August 30. Daily, 10am-6pm.

GALLERY CHOICE

● **ANGELA FLOWERS:** When all about are losing theirs. Flowers East, the East End home of the Angela Flowers Gallery, has seized the opportunity offered by the recession to acquire vast new additional premises. They are immediately opposite the present gallery and comprise four gallery spaces on three floors. The first section to open is on the ground floor, with a show of Neil Jeffries' quirky painted aluminium sculptures, while Flowers East continues with paintings by Jack Smith and prints by Prunella Clough.

Angela Flowers Gallery at London Fields, 282 Richmond Road, London E8 081-985 3333, Tues-Sun 10am-6pm. Until July 26.

● **BP PORTRAIT AWARD 1992:** Despite occasional sneers and giggling, the National Portrait Gallery's annual portrait award, now sponsored by BP, has become something of an institution. Niggling about what is and what is not a portrait is still possible, and people are often worried by the extremely safe and conventional choices for winners. But there is generally also something unexpected to enjoy. This year there are eight artists short-listed, ranging in age from 21 to 37, and a considerable variety of styles.

National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2 071-306 0055. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm. Until Sept 6.

● **224TH SUMMER EXHIBITION:** Hundreds who never go to any other art exhibition turn out from Cheltenham and Worthing to see what the Royal Academy is up to and, gratefully often, to buy. To its credit, the Academy has been updating its image in recent years — if not always wisely — so that now there is a fair sprinkling of abstraction among the cosy post-impressionists. But the summer show still remains a major stamping ground for English eccentricity, and long may it continue to do so.

Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 071-439 7438, daily 10am-6pm. From Sunday to August 16.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

TELEVISION REVIEW

Alien life forms

A part from the impenetrability of the Govan, Glasgow accents, given the operatic level of violence and caricature on which Rab C. Nesbitt (BBC 2 last night) is pitched, subtitles would be helpful to English-speakers. Rab and his pal Jamesie (Gregor Fisher and Tony Roper) may be cartoon-strip characters, but they engage in dialogue more complicated than the verbal equivalent of "Zap!", "Pow!" and "Huh?", and most viewers will be still tangling with the diphthongs of that preliminary to most conversations, "Si viewe" ("See you" or perhaps "Now look here, my good man"), when the pair have already moved on several frames to their next encounter with unfriendly fate.

Life is unquestionably hard for the indigent Rab, Jamesie, Rab's wife Mary (Elaine C. Smith), their mismatched offspring (Eric Cullen and Andrew Fairlie) and Jamesie's wife Ella (Barbara Rafferty). So gloomy are their prospects that they might be part of *EastEnders* or *Brookside*. In the latest chapter of accidents, Rab is out exercising his "pit-bull canary" on a lead when he encounters two acquaintances urinating in a telephone box. They accuse him of normality, a charge he rejects with the boast that he has had several electric shock treatments and was demented before they were old enough to abuse themselves. He is forced to admit, however, that there is another local celebrity even more dangerously disturbed than he: the cannibalistic McGurn.

This sporting (Maurice Reeves, wearing a glass eye and a Hannibal Lecter-style mask), is seen in court, where the judge (Ian Cuthbertson) is intimidated into fining rather than imprisoning him on serious assault charges, and releases him with time to pay. McGurn rides out of court on a motorbike, carrying a sword and looking for the man (Jamesie) who has been

TONY PATRICK

GALLERIES: LONDON

Fragments of a royal dream

Richard Cork on a show of art collected for the Polish king Stanislaus Augustus



Royal commission: portrait of Izabela Lubomirska, 1757, by Marcello Bacciarelli. Wilanow Museum

By a perverse twist of history, Poland's national tragedy became Britain's cultural gain. Over 200 years ago, the Polish king Stanislaus Augustus asked two agents based in London to assemble a picture collection fit for Warsaw's proposed national gallery. So the painter Francis Bourgeois and the art dealer Noel Desenfans set about acquiring a large and distinguished array of paintings by, among others, Rembrandt, Watteau, Poussin, Murillo and Tiepolo.

But the canvases never reached their intended destination. Russia and Prussia, who had always contested Stanislaus's attempts to strengthen his country's political position, joined forces with Austria and brought about the first partition of Poland. Then, after further struggles for independence, a national uprising was crushed. In 1795 Poland suffered its third partition, and Stanislaus was obliged to abdicate. Invited to St Petersburg by the son of his former lover, Catherine the Great, he died there three years later.

So Bourgeois and Desenfans found themselves left with the stillborn royal collection in London, abandoned and unpaid for. Rather than dispersing the unwanted paintings, they sold a few and bequeathed the rest in 1811 to Dulwich College. There they have remained, displayed in a superb gallery designed for them by Sir John Soane.

The Dulwich collection's Polish origins are often forgotten. But the fact remains that Stanislaus wanted the pictures to hang in Warsaw's Royal Castle, and 30 of the choicest canvases have just been sent there for a special loan exhibition. In return, the Castle has organised and dispatched to Dulwich a remarkable show celebrating Stanislaus's voracious cultural activities, including some of the paintings he did manage to acquire in Warsaw before his final humiliation.

Although his collection's subsequent dispersal makes it difficult to assess, a royal inventory of 1795 lists a staggering 2,289 paintings — not to mention several hundred pastels, miniatures and gouaches. Desenfans was only one among many agents who bought on his behalf.

Periods of study in Paris, London and St Petersburg had left Stanislaus with a highly developed enthusiasm for the culture of the Enlightenment. He strove for the

transformation of Poland, reforming the entire educational system, abolishing feudal restraints and seeing himself as the agent of Divine Providence. He cast himself in the role of a second Sun King, and the success of his policies led the emergent generation of Poles to rebel against the dominance of neighbouring powers.

The desire for autonomy eventually led to disaster, but not before Stanislaus had proved himself a remarkable patron of the arts. He had a talent for intimate friendships with his favoured artists. The court painter Marcello Bacciarelli was showered with lavish privileges, including ample estates. In return, Stanislaus expected him to deal speedily with a prodigious range of commissions.

Instead of wilting under the regal demands, Bacciarelli thrived. His flamboyant full-length portrait of Stanislaus dominates the Dulwich exhibition's first room, defining the dynamism as well as the ostentation of a king brazenly brandishing his coronation dress. Stanislaus stares out at

us with all the smiling confidence of a man flushed with new-found monarchical power. In the end, though, Bacciarelli's ability as a painter did not justify Stanislaus's enthusiasm for his work. The king proved a surer judge of quality in landscape painting than in portraiture.

Bernardo Bellotto, who had intended to stay in Warsaw for only a few months en route to Russia in 1767, found himself appointed Stanislaus's court painter the following year. He stayed until his death in 1780, nourished by a professorship

at the Academy of Fine Arts, a salary of 100 ducats, an apartment and carriage.

Bellotto's reputation has always been overshadowed by his uncle Canaletto, under whom he studied in Venice. But Bellotto had his own voice as a painter of panoramic views. Two of these are included in the Dulwich show, and they prove that his approach to an urban scene was weightier and more realistic than Canaletto's.

Like his uncle, Bellotto seems uncertain as a figure painter. The prominent horse-riders and peasants in the foreground of *View of Ujazdow* weaken the painting. In his view of the city from the terrace of the Royal Castle, he shows a powerful grasp of the architecture of the Baroque Palace of the Tin Roof, the Casimir Palace beyond, and Warsaw's relationship with the banks of the Vistula.

Stanislaus's achievement as a collector rather than a patron cannot be properly evaluated in the present survey. Some of his most important acquisitions, such as Fragonard's *The Stolen Kiss* and the now-disputed Rembrandt *The Polish Rider*, have passed into other collections.

But Dulwich has been able to borrow some distinguished Dutch paintings, among them a consummate Gerard ter Borch panel of *An Officer Writing a Letter*. Although his paintings are usually very modest in size, their quality outstrips their dimensions. He invests this routine military activity with an unexpected significance, hinting at a melancholy in the officer's down-turned face as he dictates to a subordinate. For all their finery, both figures seem overshadowed and diminished by the darkness around them.

● Treasures of a Polish King, at the Dulwich Picture Gallery 081-693 5254 until July 26

RECORDS: CLASSICAL

Not of a feather

Bryn Terfel, the young Welsh bass-baritone whom many felt should have become Cardiff Singer of the World in 1989 (the year Dmitri Hvorostovsky won), now sets the seal on his *Lieder Prize* in an outstanding recording of Schubert's *Schwanengesang* (Sain SCDC 4035).

These "last songs" show just how well the voice is already integrated, from the lightest, highest half-note to the true depth of bass tone needed for the procession of rhyming dactyls of "In der Ferne" and the weight of the world's sorrow in "Der Atlas". They also display the maturity of Terfel's response to their particular mood and spirit. What he uncovers is the unique quality of serene, continuous movement which pulses through them, as effortlessly as the rippling of water or the movement of the air currents they describe.

This he achieves through phrasing as artful as it is apparently instinctive, and by a smooth legato and covering of tone for the indoor, inward moments. Throughout the recording, Terfel's pianist, Malcolm Martineau, makes his own powerful contribution to the subtlety of movement within and between songs.

The six great Heine songs achieve their distinction through the way in which their strength is contained, and through the quality of wide distances found within the

voice. The eventual unfurling into the calm of "Die Taubenpost" has an appropriate gentle inevitability.

Brigitte Fassbender, significantly, places the "Pigeon Post" song first in her *Schwanengesang* (DG 429 766-2), as if to clear the way for the serious business. And her performance of it epitomises the difference between the two recordings. This "Taubenpost" is wayward in its energies, as Fassbender anticipates a note here, glances up at an interval there, bounces off the end of a phrase.

From "Liebesbotschaft" on, her swansongs are altogether more nervous, more highly strung. Arribert Reimann maintains a supportively high profile at the piano.

Fassbender rarely trusts to quietness or undertone, and this is a pity. She makes up, though, for this slight shortfall in wonder by a formidable group of Heine songs. There is a new and chilling terror in hearing "Der Doppelgänger" in the register and timbre of the female voice. With the wide, bold strokes and colour juxtapositions of an Expressionist canvas, Fassbender creates a Schubertian apotheosis which few Lieder collectors will wish to be without.

HILARY FINCH

● Sain recordings may be obtained from Canolfan Sain, Llandrindog, Cemaesfawr, Gwynedd LL54 5TG (0286 831111).

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The French language has ended its affair with *amants*, but *obsolete* is not, quite, obsolete. Andy Martin reports



For seven days in May it had been officially *la Semaine de la langue française* (the Week of the French Language). People all over Paris were speaking French constantly in a spontaneous collective celebration of their native tongue. There were posters and flysheets carrying this imperative message: "Le français, parlons-en!" Around the country, spelling championships were being fought out. There was even a prize for the best love letter. Catherine Tassa, *Ministre de la Francophonie* (the Minister for Francophonie — ie, for French-speaking, or French-speaking peoples), had appeared on television and radio to exalt *l'amour de la langue*.

On a Sunday night I was sitting outside the Café du Louvre in the *1er arrondissement*. As midnight approached I pointed out to the garçon that it was nearly the end of the *Semaine de la langue française*. "C'est triste, ça," he said dolefully. "What are we supposed to speak next week?"

The answer to that question is not self-evident. There is a theory in France that future French children will look back on the age of the Francophones with the same incredulity and astonishment that they now reserve for dinosaurs. The apocalyptic school of thought which maintains that French is on the verge of extinction, swamped by an influx of Hollywoodisms, pop lyrics, and Silicon valley-speak, has led to the emergence of such patriotic pressure groups as *la Société pour la défense de la langue française*. But it also reflects a widespread popular pessimism.

Strict Anglophones need not gather for the funeral just yet. This 1000-year-old language is still alive and kicking, not just in France but in 47 countries and communities around the world. Probably the nearest equivalent Britain has to *la Francophonie* — in the multinational political form consecrated by Mitterrand in 1986 — is the Commonwealth. But while our institution explicitly bases its appeal on material things (wealth), its French counterpart assumes the pre-eminence of language.

The Académie Française, founded by Cardinal Richelieu in the 17th century to defend and define *le bon usage*, is the traditional guardian of the French language. Bertrand Poirot-Delpech, a novelist and for many years chief of the literary pages of *Le Monde*, is one of its 40 distinguished members. Beneath the *cupole* of the Palais Mazarin on the Quai Voltaire, he showed me around the hallowed chamber where the Académiciens meet on Thursday afternoons to debate and vote on words and definitions to go into the *Dictionnaire de l'Académie*.

The eighth edition of the *Dictionnaire* came out in 1936. The ninth is in preparation but they're only up to "E". There was a rumour that the word *cul* (arse) has already been expunged on the grounds of vulgarity. Somehow I couldn't bring myself to ask M Poirot-Delpech about *cul*, but a glance at one of the *fascicules* containing work in progress reassured me on this point. I did ask him whether the Académie



could tolerate the word *réaliser* in the now commonplace but criticised English sense, rather than in the traditional sense of "to accomplish". "R", he said, "is for the next century, fortunately."

M Poirot-Delpech, born in 1929, was until recently the youngest Académicien and linguistically is a pragmatic reformist. He backed recent proposed changes in orthography but backtracked in the face of a public outcry on behalf of endangered circumflexes and *trains-d'union*. "For so long we have been denounced as reactionaries. Now we are denounced as adventurers." He believes the *Dictionnaire* should be ready not just to welcome certain new words into the fold, but should be actively looking for them and making them up where they cannot be found. Some 30 new words will be officially admitted into the French

language in September, when the 1993 edition of the *Petit Larousse Illustré* makes its appearance. I went to see Claude Kannas, the editorial director at the Larousse offices in the Rue du Montparnasse, in the hope of getting a sneak preview. But the *nouveaux mots* are guarded as jealously as the crown jewels, sealed in an envelope which is not to be opened until August — and then only by selected members of the press. It was only the unscheduled intrusion of one of her colleagues, tearing her hair out over a definition, that enabled me to scoop the entire French press corps: I can reveal that one of the words of the year is *tag* (anglicism for hieroglyphic graffiti).

Mme Kannas employs a linguist to go about recording the slang of the *banlieue* (suburbs), but only considers neologisms for inclusion when they have seeped into the written

form, and only then if she feels they have any kind of long-term future. She has a folder full of rejects, the words that never made it (e.g. *agressologie*).

Mme Kannas is not just a linguistic midwife bringing lexical babes into the world, she is also a reluctant executioner. She called up the file on her computer marked "VX" (*vieux*) which listed all the words that were potentially up for the chop. She loved these words and didn't like to see them die. Some, seemingly terminal cases, would make a miraculous recovery — for example, *désamour*, formerly "the end of an affair", now "disenchantment". Even *obsolete* had, thanks to the Larousse *Dictionnaire de l'obsolete*, made something of a comeback.

Seeing the word *amant* (lover) flash up on the screen marked "VX" gave me a sudden *frisson*. "Are there

no more *amants* in France?" I gasped. Mme Kannas explained that it was the definition that was outmoded, not the word or the thing itself. In the age of Cyrano de Bergerac and the great platonic relationships, she said, she might have taken me home and safely introduced me to her husband as her *amant*. She regretted this was no longer possible.

If the treasures of the 1993 Larousse were largely beyond reach, there was at least one dictionary available in Paris which specialized in nothing but new words. This was the *Dictionnaire des termes officiels*, also known as the *Dictionnaire des termes francophones recommandés*, the new French words invented to stem the tide of unreconstructed anglicisms flooding into the country from show-business, sports and science.

Some notable successes have been in the realm of computer science, where "software" was replaced by *logiciel* and "hardware" by *matériel* (terms dreamt up one Thursday afternoon at the Académie). "Computer" is now never heard in France, only *ordinateur*, although the anachronistic form "PC" lingers on. Laws have been passed making the use of such francophone terms compulsory by civil servants. Nobody has yet been arrested for saying "un one-man-show". But perhaps that wouldn't be such a bad thing, especially in the case of the abominable *pin's* (the non-genitival apostrophe in both singular and plural), meaning "badge", which can now be mercifully replaced with *épinglette*.

During the current French Open (one of the four *Grand Chelem* events) at Roland Garros you will hear the arbiters saying not "break", but "jeu décisif" and the net-judge crying out "file" instead of "let". You won't be able to watch "chessmen" playing, but only *joueurs de tennis*, who will not have "sponsors" but rather *parrains*.

Such innovations are the fruit of some 25 government-appointed agencies operating in various spheres and overseen by the *Délégation générale à la langue française*. The *Délégué général* and head of the *Service de terminologie* is Bernard Cerquiglini, a young professor from the Sorbonne. He describes his work as "facing up to the challenge of modernity", and sees as part of a great tradition, stretching back to the Renaissance and beyond, of borrowing and shaping words to fill the holes opened up by the expansion of knowledge. "My dream", he told me, "is a transnational commission, embracing all the Romance countries", which would single-handedly create new words appropriate not just to France, but — mutants mutants — Spain, Italy, and Portugal, too.

M Cerquiglini so won me over that I now feel that mere *reaction* is not enough — they should be running ahead of fashion and coming up with the francophone terms first. And why wait for showbusiness or sport to throw up the phenomena. *La Commission des mots pour les choses qui n'existent pas* would shape the future by inventing words for things we would like to exist but that have yet to be discovered in the real world. It already has at least three blockbusters to its credit: *liberté, égalité, fraternité*.

Properties of the week



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For just £5,000 (including agency and legal fees), you can buy this substantial stone farmhouse (below), a few miles from the old town of Baraqueville in the Aveyron, a sparsely populated mountainous department on the edge of the southwest, between the Lot and the Tarn. The nearest international airport is Toulouse, about two hours' drive away.

Built in honey-coloured stone under a terracotta tiled roof, the 100-year-old property is connected to mains water and electricity, but needs total renovation (at least another £20,000 spent on repairs to make it habitable). It comprises a main house with eight rooms, a large attached barn, and a small garden.

The agent for the United Kingdom is Rey French Properties, 44 Rectory Lane, King's Langley, Hertfordshire (telephone 0923 270214).



With £10,000 to spend in southern Brittany, you can afford to buy this little stone-built house (below), situated in a peaceful hamlet, near the old market town of La Gacilly, half an hour from the sea. The city of Vannes and the white Atlantic swept beaches of la Baule are 30 minutes' drive away, and the ferry port at St Malo can be reached in an hour and a half.

The old house is structurally sound, with a good roof, mains water and electricity, but needs modernisation, including a new kitchen and bath. There are two rooms on the ground floor, with exposed beams and a large open stone fireplace. A staircase leads to a large attic with wooden floors, which could easily be converted to provide another two rooms.

The price includes a small barn, used as a garage, and quarter of an acre of garden with apple trees. The UK agent is Brittany Property Services, 82 High Street, Tenetiden, Kent (05806 3953).



Further north and east, in the gently rolling countryside of the Mayenne, the same sort of money (£10,000, including agency fees) will pay for this run-down *fermette* (farm cottage), below, in a tranquil rural setting, not far from the old market town of Lassay-les-Châteaux. The coast at Mont St Michel is about an hour's drive and the Normandy port of Caen can be reached in 90 minutes.

The old farm dwelling, with a large attached outhouse and garage, is in good structural condition, but needs a fair amount of renovation and improvement, including the installation of a septic tank and connection to mains water.

It has two rooms on the ground floor (not including the adjoining outhouse, which could be incorporated into the house), a WC, and a large convertible attic. There is a small garden at the front and a secluded garden at the side and rear, with fruit trees. The UK agent is Normandy and Brittany Cottages, 62 Chesson Road, London W14 (071-381 4433).

CHERYL TAYLOR



Lean and elegant thoroughbreds will strut their stuff on Sunday — and the French Derby horses will be just as fine

Chantilly race, a pretty face

This Sunday is Derby day at Chantilly and, while the English flock to Epsom for a few pints and a day off work, the French regard their Prix du Jockey-Club and June 14's Prix de Diane — the equivalent of the Derby and the Oaks — as a celebration of something far more important.

Christian de Lagarde, the chief executive of the Chantilly racecourse — or Hippodrome as it is known — has even burst into verse to describe this time of year. "Each spring nature awakes. / But at Chantilly the pleasure of the awakening is doubled."

"Everyone wants to emerge from winter time," he says. "It is the same for nature as for the fillies, the colts, the women and the men. This day would not be the same if it was in July."

For 11 months of the year, Chantilly is dedicated to the production, training and general well-being of the thoroughbred. There are 3,000 horses in training at 100

different yards in Chantilly and its environs — Gouvieux, Lamorlaye, Cote-la-Foret and Avilly-St-Leonard. The gallopers stretch for miles along lush turf and the money from the pockets of 750 owners funds a workforce of 2,000 as well as a host of dreams. Although one or two down Newmarket way might beg to differ, these are acknowledged to be the best training facilities in the world, the home of the great French trainers — Francois Boutin, Criquelette and Alex Head, André Fabre.

But, for the next two Sundays, Chantilly opens its doors and welcomes the outside world. An exclusive outside world, of course, made up of the rich, the famous and the well-bred — or, failing any of those three, anybody with the confidence to pretend. These are the days Newmarket meets Royal Ascot and, more often



Hats off to Chantilly: two race-goers compare blossoms

than not, at least for the Prix de Diane, Royal Ascot wins handsomely. On Prix Diane day, the racing itself is an alibi.

Each year, there is a different theme to the Prix de Diane day. This time, it is Italian,

which means drinking Italian wine, importing a performing horse troupe called the Carabini and welcoming the Italian president, Giulio Andreotti. Catherine Deneuve, the actress and French institution, will preside

over a charity lunch for 1,300. Then, at various times during the afternoon, a few animals, sleek and immaculately maddled, will earn or cost their owners enormous sums by winning or losing races.

For the professional, trying to earn an honest centime in the midst of the jollity, life at Chantilly can be tiring. Criquelette Head, the daughter of the great Alex and herself one of France's leading trainers, who won the English 1,000 Guineas with Hatof last month, appreciates that the day is about more than racing — "Every woman likes an excuse to have a new outfit" — but, equally, knows that this is the climax of a year's hard work. A win at Chantilly adds thousands to the breeding value of thoroughbreds.

The one dilemma for the socialites this Sunday is where to go to be seen. Do they

venture to Chantilly for the French Derby — which M de Lagarde says, "less social and more professional" than the French Oaks a week later — or do they stay closer to home and take in the men's final at the French Open tennis championships in the Stade Roland Garros? Chantilly has anticipated the problem by installing television screens so that the smart ones can be seen to be seen in two places at the same time. Or, in the words of the poet, "Nul ne peut résister à l'appel du meeting Chantilly", which roughly translated means: "You can't afford to miss it."

ANDREW LONGMORE

Chantilly racecourse is 50km north of Paris, and can be reached either on Autoroute A1, taking the exit for Sartrouville or Senlis, or through the Porte de la Chapelle and then north on RN 16. Trains from Gare du Nord, Entrance FFR 45, which allows you into the grandstand and around the paddock. Refreshments range from sandwich bars to a restaurant.

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This superb offer with Mercure and Altea Hotels enables you to plan a family holiday, stop over on business, or simply relax with a weekend break. Whatever your choice, you could pay as little as £200 (about £20) per night for a family of four.

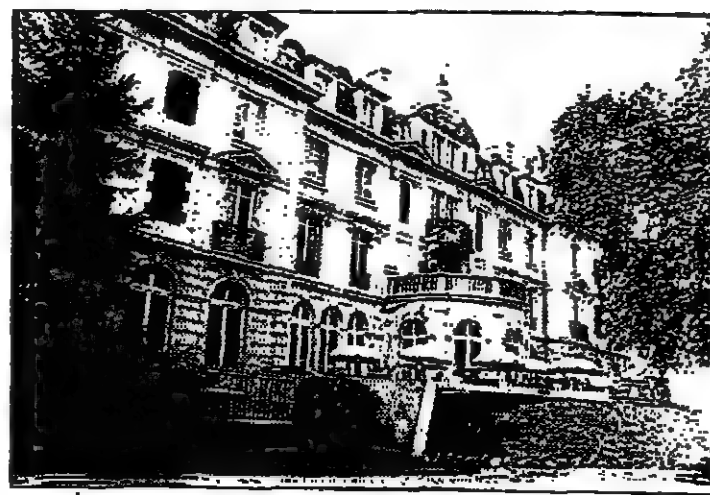
To take advantage of this offer you will need to collect ten different tokens from those printed in both *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* until Saturday June 13.

The offer is available at participating Mercure and Altea hotels from June 20, through July and August and up to September 7. The discount is available for any day of the week although on some days the reduction available will be 25 per cent. Details of all the hotels, with a brief description of the

facilities they offer and their room rates can be found in the four-page feature which appeared in last Tuesday's *Times*, together with details of how to book, terms, conditions and an application form. Further details will appear in *The Sunday Times* and in *The Times* throughout the next eight days.

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HOW TO BOOK

You may select as many hotels for as many nights as you wish as long as your stay is before September 7, 1992.

Applications must be accompanied by ten different tokens from *The Times* or *The Sunday Times*. A token has already appeared in *The Sunday Times* on May 31 and one will appear this Sunday. Tokens will appear in *The Times* daily until June 13, when another application form will be published. Complete all sections of the form, indicating where possible a second choice of hotel in case your first hotel is unavailable on the dates requested. Your application must be sent by post to the central reservation office at the address shown, who will process your application, and if all

your selections are available confirmation will be sent to you. Should any of your selections be unavailable, your second choice will be checked. If still unavailable, the reservation centre will advise you and offer the best alternatives.

Special telephone lines will be open for any queries at the reservation centre from June 10, which is the earliest day for booking, and details will appear in *The Times*.

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TOKEN 4

Agony is more than skin-deep

Heather Lindsay has suffered from severe eczema since childhood. She explains how she has learnt to live with the misery

At sit at my desk writing this article, I am missing yet another lecture. I am truly trapped inside my skin. I suffer from eczema.

The common conception of eczema is something seen on a young child: a little sore, dry skin behind a knee, or in the crook of an elbow. It is not at all uncommon in children, but has usually disappeared by adulthood. This child is now 21, and the eczema shows no signs of disappearing.

In my case, the eczema is *atopic* (also known as *infantile*), and is caused by periodic activation of a *staphylococcus aureus* bacteria. Other forms of eczema are *contact* eczema, one of the most common forms among adults; *seborrheic* eczema, found among babies and adults, affecting the hairier parts of the body; *pompholyx* eczema, blistering found on the palms and soles; *light-sensitive* eczema, caused or exacerbated by exposure to light, but fairly rare; *discoid*, and *varicose* eczemas, affecting middle-aged and elderly people. *Discoid* eczema forms disc-shaped patches, whereas *varicose* eczema is connected to varicose veins, ulcers and slow blood flow, and is found on the lower leg.

The most important thing to press upon those with no knowledge of eczema is that it is not contagious, nor is it anything to do with being unclean. Nothing is more hurtful than the insinuation that it is. Skin complaints excite horror, they have a sort of stigma.

The most obvious feature of the eczema is the redness of my skin. When it is particularly bad, or when I have just attacked a stubborn itch, my skin can become crimson, never mind the cracking and possible bleeding. This can occur on my face, although mercifully this is the area of me on which the eczema is least prevalent. Many sufferers of severe eczema are not so lucky, but even in my case people make comments. Only yesterday, I was asked in all innocence whether I had been on a sunbed.

Many people will find it strange that a little dry skin can keep me away from university, unable to dress and to go out, and moody at times. If it was just "a little dry skin", this would indeed be odd, but I suffer from severe eczema, and find myself incapacitated for lengthy stretches at diminishing intervals.

The feature of eczema with which most people are familiar is the itch. This itch has been described in a number of ways by sufferers, but nothing can explain it adequately. It is insistent, there is no chance of ignoring it, and the average eczema sufferer inwardly screams when, out of the best motives, someone tries to stop them scratching. No matter how often it is explained, it

never seems fully to be understood that not scratching is no good: an unscratched itch will reappear once the sufferer is asleep (assuming they are lucky enough to sleep), and will be stronger. When asleep, the sufferer can do great damage. Many is the morning I have woken up to wonder how I got that dreadful scratch down my face or arm.

Eczema sufferers don't just stop at using their nails: it may be necessary to take a brush or a comb to a particularly bad itch. It is not only uncomfortable, but embarrassing. I have given up white clothes as I'm fed up with blood stains, but dark clothes show the shed skin more clearly, so I can't win. I get very bad itches in the middle of my back, and years of unconsciously going right for the itch — often I don't even realise that I am scratching — have made it very easy for me to twist round to attack every inch of my back. Imagine that at a job interview, or in a restaurant. Embarrassing on an long explanation often just makes the situation worse. I wriggle as long as I can, and then, if possible, I excuse myself and abandon myself to the pure bliss of scratching that itch in the ladies'. Although the after-effects of scratching, the possible infection or the bruising, can be painful, the actual moment of killing that itch is sublime.

Of course, all this makes the skin sore. It is not just the itching, it is the dryness, which makes the skin split and crack. For the most part this is why I have to take time off university. I suffer from very itchy, dry shoulders and back, so wearing a bra is out of the question a lot of the time. If my thigh or knee joints are cracked and sore, I have nightmares about underwear and trousers.

Apart from the discomfort of clothing, the cracking and splitting also make movement anything from mildly uncomfortable, but bearable, to screaming agony. When this is the case, it is impossible to make the journey into university in central London, and then sit quietly and concentrate for an hour or more while taking notes. The stress this causes makes the eczema worse. Even the simple actions of walking up and down

stairs, and bending my arms to take things out of my bag can be a trial.

When my skin is bad, if I need to look neat and smart for something, I have problems. Generally, I just put up with the unpleasant tightness of underwear, a skirt with a waistband under which I sweat, and stockings under which I itch, when all I want to be in is the loosest, coolest clothing. I, and most eczema sufferers, have to wear cotton next to the skin, but I need all my clothes to be cotton as apart from the irritation factor of polyester, nylon and other man-made fibres, I find I get too hot in anything else. Wool contains the natural fat lanolin, which is a common allergen and in my case acts like acid. When I dress, I have to make sure I can strip down to a thin T-shirt or shirt if I get very warm. My heat regulation has gone haywire, so I am cold when others are hot, and I flush with, and radiate, heat when other people are cold. My sweat glands have been affected by the level of damage to which I have had to put up with.

Nights are another problem. I go through phases of dreading the night from about half-past nine onwards, as during the bad times I can lie awake all night, maybe catching a couple of hours' sleep around five or six o'clock. Sometimes I lie awake because my skin is so irritated that it doesn't let me relax long enough to sleep, sometimes it's that I'm so hot that I can't relax. Eczema sufferers should really use man-made duvet fillings, but I find this makes me sweat more, and so I have a feather-filled duvet, as I don't have a specific feather allergy. A sheet only would be the best covering, but then I freeze except on the warmest of nights. Antihistamine doesn't work, unless it's in a frighteningly huge dose, and I'm reluctant to get on to the sleeping pill cycle. I have tried a herbal, non-addictive relaxant and sleep-inducer, which at this early stage appears to be working.

I am extremely lucky in having friends who have known me long enough — or are intelligent enough

— to ignore the eczema when I do, and to accept it when it prevents me from joining in whatever the fun is. My family is prepared to squeeze every penny out of an already beleaguered back account to pay for treatment, and to run around after me when I'm in too much of a mess to do much.

Our washing machine never stops as I get through mountains of bed linen each week, and I can't really wear an item of clothing, except jeans and jackets, more than once without washing it. Partly this is because I get grossly oily all over everything, but also because every time I scratch an itch, I dislodge hundreds of precariously attached skin cells. These cells are the primary food of the dust mite, whose droppings are known to irritate eczema, so I want to get rid of the lot every time I wash something.

It is also important that dust in my room is kept to a minimum. To this end, we have invested in a very powerful (very expensive) vacuum cleaner which sucks the dust out of the tiniest crevice, and can also be used to vacuum curtains, mattress and so on.

There are hundreds of different products used to treat eczema, and as many different opinions held by GPs, dermatologists and hospitals, not to mention the plethora of "alternative" treatments. I have used endless different preparations, from the harmless emollient creams to strong steroid ointments.

I have had bath oils, special shampoos, special creams for different bits of me, a stay in hospital, steroid injections, antibiotics, antihistamines, homeopathic remedies (as much based on my psyche as my condition), wheat-free diets, fruit-free diets and on and on. I do think that at last I am getting somewhere, but I know it will take a long time and will not necessarily be a permanent remedy. I don't expect to be cured totally — I don't think it's possible — but I would like to be able to live a normal life.

Despite the problems, I am lucky. People have said that they would never have known I have eczema, when it is not bad on my face and hands. There are times when I don't itch, and when my skin feels almost soft, and when there's no redness, cuts or infection, and when I sleep and can move with total ease. Unless things are really quite bad, I can carry on a normal social life, and enjoy university and get my work done. I accept the limitations on my life most of the time — I know I can't go swimming: water robs my skin of its tiny quantity of natural oils, and so after a bath I have to use large amounts of ointment.

I know I can't go to aerobics or



Trying to live as normal a life as possible, despite eczema: Heather Lindsay at home in Guildford

play games like squash or tennis, because the exertion makes me sweat and that is agony on sore skin — I used to think that everyone's skin hurt when they perspired. I know I can't be quite as spontaneous as others — I have to make sure I'm equipped with all the necessary creams, bath oils, changes of clothes and so on. But once I stopped expecting an immediate cure (there is no actual cure for eczema), and started treating my skin as I should, it became easier to live with.

It is important that people in general, and particularly employers

and teachers do not dismiss eczema as insignificant, or eczema-sufferers as "whingers" — I have come across this attitude. I have approached my university with the problem as it relates to my work, and they have been extremely helpful, and made all sorts of allowances.

Also, it is important to see a GP, but not to be browbeaten into a certain line of treatment: I once objected to a particular remedy in which I had little faith and was subjected to a tirade of abuse along the lines of "what do you know?" After 21 years of eczema, I think I know a lot about it — I have made it

my business to do so — and it is important to be happy with your course of treatment. Don't be afraid to change GPs or to go elsewhere for a second opinion when seeing a specialist. I have done all these and I am now confident that I have found the right expert and the right course of treatment.

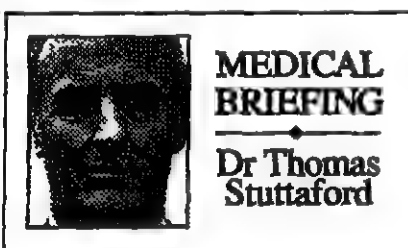
● The National Eczema Society (NES) is at 4 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9BA (071-388 409). The Institute for Complementary Medicine (21 Portland Place, London W1N 3AF. Tel: 071-636 9543) can give you details of alternative therapies.

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Head that survived

YASSER ARAFAT's escape from the aircraft crash in April which killed the crew was hailed as miraculous. This week it transpired that Mr Arafat had not escaped as scot-free as had been hoped: a visit to a medical centre in Amman had shown that something untoward was happening within Mr Arafat's skull and that further investigations would be necessary.

Within 24 hours his condition had worsened and he was troubled by a severe headache. Mr Arafat needed emergency neurosurgery to evacuate clots which were compressing his brain: he was suffering from a chronic subdural haematoma. Bleeding had been occasioned by a tearing of the cerebral veins, this must have followed a blow to the head when the plane crashed. A clot, from the bleeding, formed on the surface of the brain under the dura, part of its covering. The blow would have caused the brain, which is



MEDICAL BRIEFING
Dr Thomas Stuttaford

only of the consistency of firm blanc-mange, to shift too violently within the skull.

As patients grow older — Mr Arafat is 62 — their brains shrink and fit the skull less snugly and in consequence greater movement within it is possible and thus the tearing of the veins and consequent haemorrhage is more likely. More than one clot frequently forms, for a blow to the head often causes the brain to bounce about from one side of the skull to the

other with damage occurring at both points of impact. Mr Arafat needed two clots evacuated. In acute subdural haemorrhage any damage is apparent within hours, but in older patients with chronic subdural haematomas the pressure on the brain slowly increases as the clot enlarges as fluid is drawn to it by osmosis.

As the clot grows bigger the patient complains of a headache of increasing severity. Associated with this is a deterioration of mental powers until the patient eventually becomes confused and comatose. The progress is not suffering from a subdural haematoma the level of alertness and consciousness varies: somebody who may be rational at one moment may be difficult to arouse an hour or two later, only to improve again as time goes on. Mr Arafat should do well: this episode is unlikely to have caused any lasting brain damage.

A patch on other cures

ROBERT BURTON (1577-1640) described in *The Anatomy of Melancholy* the addictive nature of tobacco. Burton after extolling the virtues of tobacco when taken in small quantities went on to say: "But it is commonly abused by most men which take it as tinkers do ale; 'tis a plague, a mischief, a violent purge of goods, lands, health, helish, devilish and damned tobacco, the ruin and overthrow of body and soul."

This week a nicotine-loaded patch, Nicotinnell, made by Ciba Geigy has become available. Long heralded, these patches can be worn in the same way as those which are used to alleviate angina by delivering glycerine nitrate, or the menopause by the release of hormones. A prescription, private not NHS, is needed and a month's supply, using one patch daily, costs £156.

Both Nicotinnell and Nicorette, the nicotine impregnated chewing-gum, are intended for smokers who, like those described by Burton 350 years ago, are addicted to nicotine: they will not be helpful for those who are psychologically hooked on the ritual of smoking, who are dependent on smoking as a means of hiding social embarrassment, or enjoy a cigar after dinner.

Animal experiments over 40 years ago proved that nicotine could be highly addic-



Bright: a wearable cure is at hand for nicotine addicts

tive and that many mammals became physically dependent on it. This was not invariably so with people who smoked and only about 40 per cent of heavy smokers were truly addicted: the rest smoke because for one reason or another they have become socially conditioned to do so.

Addictive smokers will often give up at the onset of a serious tobacco-related disease, but the results of aversion therapy, hypnosis and group therapy have all been disappointing. Nicorette, the chewing-gum

has however been shown to be successful, albeit that some patients seem to become addicted to the gum instead of to the cigarette. A controlled trial in Switzerland suggests that the patch will be helpful, 40 per cent who used it stopped smoking.

Motivation too is essential as well as any nicotine-based cigarette substitute, more people than it is usually supposed are reluctant to forego the pleasure of smoking described by Burton as "divine, rare, super excellent".

Suffering children

PEOPLE have often been callous about the suffering of young animals but a recent report from Action for Sick Children has suggested that some of this indifference to the suffering of the young may extend to children who have had surgery. In one survey 25 per cent of children after open heart surgery had no post-operative analgesia.

Children and babies suffer pain as readily as anybody else. Many doctors do not give painkillers to children unless they cry out with pain, but not all children cry and many tend to hide their pain for they have been taught to "be brave".

It may well be that children dread needles, and that they are not able to take aspirin for fear of Reye's syndrome, a reaction to aspirin which affects the brain and internal organs, but there are many other preparations as strong, or if need be very much stronger, which will ease the suffering and prevent frightening memories lying buried in their subconscious. Analgesics can be given to children as a medicine, or tablets, as well as by injection. Action for Sick Children has produced a leaflet for parents ("Children and Pain", available from Argyle House, 29-31 Euston Road, London NW1 2SD; price £1) and entreats them to demand adequate post-operative analgesia for their children.

A London translating service helps doctors communicate with patients

Dr Freda Festeinstein, a consultant at the London Chest Hospital in Bethnal Green, east London, had a bit of a problem recently. The woman sitting in front of her spoke only Sylheti, a Bengali dialect. However, the woman's teenage son spoke good English and was acting as translator. All went well until Dr Festeinstein had to ask an intimate, gynaecological question. The son shifted uneasily in his seat.

"I told him what sort of question I wanted to ask his mother," Dr Festeinstein says, "and said: 'Would you like to ask it, or shall I get a female interpreter?' You should have seen the smile of relief on his face. So I rang the interpreter."

The interpreter in question was one of 25 linguists who work for Language Line. She did not turn up in person, but conducted a three-way conversation on the telephone with the mother and Dr Festeinstein. Everybody was happy, not least the son.

Language Line was set up in April 1990 by Lord Young of Darlington, who founded the Consumer's Association and helped to start the Open University. The pilot service at the London Hospital (now Royal) operated from 9am till 5pm, offering translation in nine different languages. Situated in Whitechapel, east London, the London Hospital served a large Bengali population, as well as other ethnic minorities, particularly Somali and African refugees. It soon became apparent that other hospitals were in need of translators.

"Some hospitals have health advocates or link workers who are trained to act as interpreters," says Bernadette Britain, the medical liaison officer for Language Line, "but many of them rely on staff or relatives. But you can't just drag a member of staff away from his or her work every time there's a need for an interpreter."

In the past month, Language Line has dramatically expanded its services. It now operates 24 hours a day and offers translations into more than 140 languages, including Warray-Waray (Pacific Islands), Tigrinya (Tigre), Twi (Ghana), Chao-chou (China) and Wolof (Senegal). So far three London hospitals — the Royal Free, Guy's, and

Healing in tongues

London Chest — have signed contracts, and two others, Homerton and St Bartholomew's, are on a free test period. Leicester General has also just started using the service and negotiations are in progress with North West Hertfordshire Health Authority.

Initially funded as a charity, with the help of the Nuffield Foundation, British Telecom, the Home Office, and a number of City liveries, Language Line is now aiming to become commercially independent, while keeping its prices modest. It charges hospitals a £1,000 annual flat fee, and health authorities between £3,000 and £5,000. General practitioners in Tower Hamlets, east London, are on a trial period (the Family Health Service Authority will pick up the bill), as are a number of health centres, clinics and voluntary organisations.

According to Ms Britain, the recently published Patients' Charter has prompted many hospitals to examine their own translation facilities. The charter states that every citizen is entitled to equal health care, and "you are unlikely to get that if you can't speak the language," Ms Britain says.

She cites the case of a Bengali mother who was admitted to a London hospital with a prolapsed uterus. She was on the point of signing consent for a hysterectomy, when the doctor decided to contact Language Line. "She had no idea of the operation that was about to be performed," Ms Britain says. "When it was explained to her she became distraught as she was hoping to have more children. The operation was cancelled."

Or there was the Somali woman who thought he was about to have an x-ray for his stomach ache, when in fact he was on the point of undergoing an intense treatment of radiotherapy for bowel cancer. Language Line was able to explain to the patient the exact extent

of his illness, and organised counselling sessions.

Language Line's 25 interpreters are instructed in health matters by a state-registered nurse. They also meet many of the doctors with whom they will deal regularly. "I am particularly interested in asthma, cancer and tuberculosis," Dr Festeinstein says, "so I explain to them the sort of expressions I regularly use."

Patients and doctors can pass the telephone between them, plug in an adaptor and another phone, or use a "hands off" intercom. If there is a need for a case conference, five people can speak together through the switchboard. And, although their principal task is one of explanation, the



Dr Festeinstein: uses service

interpreters inevitably act as counsellors, lending a sympathetic, anonymous ear.

JON STOCK
● Language Line is on 081-983 4042.

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HEALTH TIPS

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- Rub aspirin on insect stings to stop the pain...
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The country that gave its castles back

As Czechs go to the polls, some are returning to the grand homes once confiscated from them. Marcus Binney reports

Never have the fortunes of great ancestral houses taken a more unexpected turn than in Czechoslovakia today. Over the past few weeks, dozens of castles, hundreds of hectares of surrounding farmland and large collections of paintings and furniture have been returned to their former, largely noble, owners. A few years ago, most of these would have been as easily believed the sun would fall into the moon.

Confiscation came in two waves. First in 1945-46 from German families and collaborators and second in 1948 from the rest. Not surprisingly, former Nazis are specifically excluded from the present restitution programme.

In Bohemia and Moravia, the Czech half of the country, the national monument service estimates there are 2,500 castles and country seats, as well as about 500 smaller manor houses. Most had been handed over to a variety of institutions, homes for the elderly, for the military. One hundred and fifty of the houses had remained open to the public as show houses or as museums. Half of these are now being reclaimed.

On May 11, I set out to explore East Bohemia with John Harris, the architectural historian. Kit Martin, the rescuer of great empty houses and the American garden historian Howard Adams. With us came Josef Šulc, the director of the Czech monument service. Surprises awaited at every turn.

Our first stop was Letovice, a renaissance castle remodelled in the 1720s and 1820s. It stands on a crag above a valley, but the approach is lined with large concrete apartment blocks. The huge barns in the outer courtyard are used by local farming collectives. Finding a gap in the chain link fence around the castle, we were soon on the terrace, looking down on a large regency gothic stable.

Inside there were signs of military use, and everywhere the debris of collapsed ceilings. But for all its pathetic abandon, Letovice had a good new roof. Faced with a vast number of empty castles and monuments, the Czechs have at least tried to make sure the roofs are sound. Only a few months before, parliament voted an extra two million crowns, just for the roofs of endangered monuments.

Our next stop was Cerná Hora, which has a renaissance wing dated 1561 and handsome Italianate additions of the 1850s. Inside it proved to be a thriving old people's home. Residents sat outside in the courtyard enjoying the sun.

Now came Lysovac, boasting a garden pergola mighty enough for Olympians. Inside we found the upstairs gallery panelled with an extraordinary series of rifle targets. There was one for each year from 1800 to 1850, painted with scenes of local life and spattered with bullet holes. This house, as with others which will not be restituted, will probably be returned to the local village or town, which may keep it as a show house or put it up for sale.

Last that day came Boskovic, beautifully remodelled in Empire style in the 1820s and newly returned to its owner, a count. The columned carriage hall is as classically neo-classical as any in Paris or Berlin, and the furniture remains "best Biedermeier pool table I've ever seen," Mr Howard said, but

in perfect, too perfect, decorative order. Looking at a Victorian water colour of an upstairs bedroom, we noticed the ceiling was now on a different, simpler pattern. All was suddenly clear. Whole rooms had been completely renewed.

"The state property service which did such work was not interested in routine maintenance. They left the buildings to decay so there would be a bigger job to do in the end," Mr Šulc said.

On to the renaissance castle at Pardubice, where a dreadful shock awaits. The castle is a heavily fortified precinct approached through a series of gateways and has the grey pallor of death. A

nearby, Cernikovice, now a home for the mentally handicapped. The patients will be relocated in a former Czech army barracks. Institutions inhabiting these houses are allowed to stay on for up to ten years after the owners reclaim, but the owners can claim rent, and possibly hasten departure. On the first floor we find a magnificent picture collection, rooms of full-length Elizabethan portraits, baroque religious pictures, and beautiful, if melancholy, canvases of dead game. All the pictures have been expertly cleaned and appear in excellent condition.

After lunch we set off to visit historic Castolovice to meet Diana Phipps, a Czech married to an Englishman, who now works for President Havel. "I got the house back five days ago," she said. The contents of the state rooms largely remain. The shock had been to find that the family rooms had been entirely gutted for a never-completed film gallery. A 1900 library alone remained, evocatively filled with bright red bound volumes of *Country Life* and *The Ladies Field*.

Beyond is an English park of extraordinary lushness and beauty, informally planned to frame a series of receding vistas. Here Mr Martin expounded his theory that pensions not paid to the owners of Czech castles will be the saving of Czech castles. "If you let a hotel in, or even a *relais-château*, it will take over the place. Hotels require a large number of staff and lose a fortune if empty for even a few months."

Much better, he argued, a series of houses and castles, each with several smaller apartments and bedroom suites for tourists who would eat out in the local town. A number of owners will have to find new ways to make their homes earn their keep beyond opening them to the public: some have turned down the opportunity to reclaim because they could not afford repairs.

Friday takes us north to the great monastery at Kuks. We stop off at Josefov, a remarkable military town dating from the Napoleonic wars, with barracks the size of government ministries. "The Russians took it over in 1968 and built a huge wall across the middle to keep everyone out," says Paul, our new guide. Now the barracks are empty, leaving more space than ever existed in Liverpool and London Docklands combined.

Our next goal is Račice, a pink Triassic overlooking lush water meadows. It was built for Metemich's mistress, Wilhelmina. The Empire interiors are filled with fresh flowers and vases of foliage. Close by is a farm court enclosed by magnificent barns. But here the re-roofing drive has gone awry. One range of weathered old piles, many capable of re-use, have been replaced by concrete ones and the undulations of the roof entirely ironed out.

Nové Město is just restituted to a Czech owner who is living in America. It stands at the lower edge of a large village square, with the best heraldic supporters I have seen, a pair of utterly life-like stone brown bears. We drive back in the blazing evening sun along country roads lined with apple trees in full bloom. "But we cannot eat the apples; they're too polluted by the leaded petrol," Mr Šulc said.

Saturday takes us into the green, open rolling country of Moravia. Our first castle is in the town of Moravská Třebová. The local council would like to lease it, we are told. The robust sonnet of the courtyard recalls the Palais de Luxembourg in Paris.

The plan of the courtyard is unusual, zig-zag but symmetrical. Mr Martin quickly comes up with a scheme for making the two end pavilions into small, twin hotels. They both have secluded gardens tucked away on the far side where you could hide a swimming pool. A few miles on we chance on Vranová Lhota, a little Normandy-style manor, in a country village. The Thurn and Taxis family, despairing of its condition, gave it to the village. It would make an enchanting family house. True, the village rubbish dump has grown up just beyond the garden wall, but it would be an easy job to shift it.

Bousov, our next stop, is a stupendous sight, built in the 1890s by Eugene von Hapsburg, grandmaster of the Teutonic Knights. We hear the knights want it back, but so far are precluded by the legislation. The red-roofed castle is dominated by a central tower



Middle-class comforts: Bousov was built in the 1890s by Eugene von Hapsburg, the grandmaster of the Teutonic Knights

as large and thrusting as a Cape Canaveral rocket. Inside, it is pure Lohengrin, with gothic bedrooms for the knights, complete with hooded beds and high-backed wooden benches. The main rooms all have ornate tiled stoves, and built-in seats, the middle-class comforts of Switzerland rather than draughtily aristocratic grandeur.

The Knights' Hall has a richly crocketed and cusped wagon roof, and beyond is a throne room lined with seats like a chapter house, dominated by a vast gothic chandelier containing a figure of St George, the patron of the order.

Going south, the villages become drabber with grey, flat-roofed concrete houses. Our goal is Náměst na Hané, a rooco summer house in a circular garden, which steps straight out of an 18th-century pattern book of *maisons de plaisance*.

In a wing, there are three sensational 18th-century state coaches, built for successive arch-

bishops of Olomouc. To show the springing still works, the guide rocks the coach on its straps with a force sufficient to give most museum curators heart seizure. The coaches have not been restored or re-upholstered, but simply cleaned.

Inside the house is painted throughout with blue and green rocaille. The upstairs rooms all have at least three doors, like a Mozart farce, for maids and par-

amours to slip in and out. Our last day takes us first to Zdechovice. A nearby power station puts an end to any dream of rural idyll, and we find the house recently vacated by the Russian army, the grounds concreted over for parking and huts. Yet the house is freshly painted with a business-like red metal roof.

Suddenly, the local mayor appears. "The Russians have given five million crowns in reparation," he explains. He wants it to become a hotel. "We have a marketing video." Before we leave, he insists we see the Russian prison, two grim cells, one no wider than a bed.

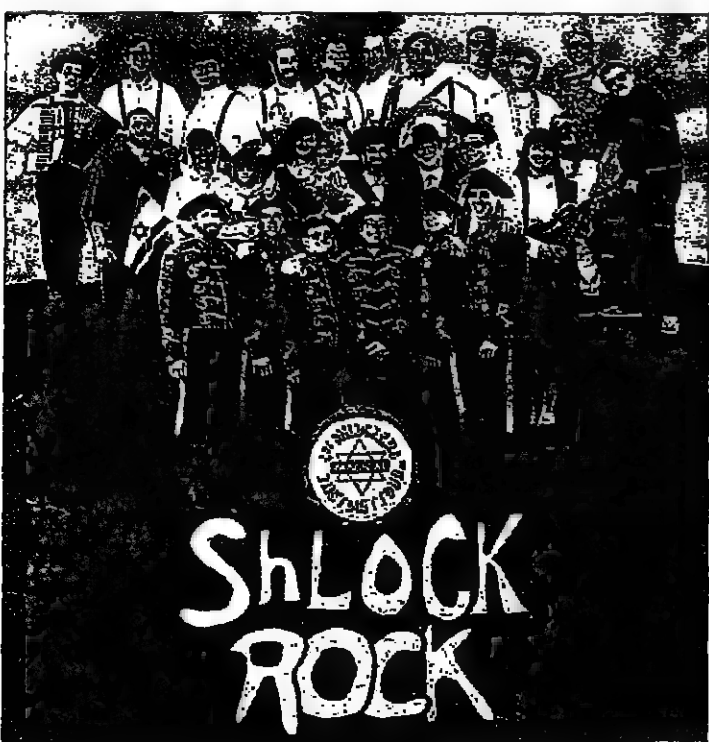
Our final goal is Kacina, the Ickworth of Bohemia. It is a vast snow white composition with an eight-column portico, extended by long colonnades. "Best Palladian sprawl I've seen," Mr Adams said. Inside it is a jolt to find it entirely fitted out as a museum of agriculture. "All the original furniture has recently been found, and can be put back," says Paul. As we walk round, our attention is engaged by the exhibits as much as the inlaid parquets and painted ceilings. There are tableaux as good as any in the Science Museum, delightful models of farm buildings, and endless curios, like the wooden baroque statue converted into a beehive with an entrance carved in its knee.

In a week, we have seen 30 houses out of 3,000. The restitution is amazing but the question is whether in ten years the owners will be managing to keep them going. Or will the Czech government, like the British, face the new challenge of acquiring whole houses with their contents for the nation?

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In tune: Shlock Rock puts ancient Jewish texts to hit rock songs

Shlock Rock's latest album is called "Sergeant Shlocker's Magical History Tour". It is an album of well-known rock songs put to ancient Jewish texts and includes "Leaving the USSR" and "Be Good, Be Cool, Be Jewish". Another band, the Yeadies, does nothing but Beatles' cover versions to its own Hebrew lyrics. Country Yossi and the Shiteebie-hoppers do the same with Country and Western music. And inevitably there is rap: the Radical Rapping Reps' latest album is called "Not Too Religious To Rap".

This is Hasidic pop, Jewish music at its most contemporary. It is fast, and funky but is it really Jewish? The man to ask is Alexander Knapp, the recently appointed, and first, research fellow in Jewish music at City University, London. "Jewish music traces its origins, directly or indirectly, to the Temple chant of 2,000 years ago, but has been subjected to the innumerable influences of the diaspora," Mr Knapp says. Geraldine Auerbach, chairman of the Jewish Musical Festival Trust, is more circumspect, talking of "music of Jewish significance". This, she says, covers

anything from "ancient prayer chants, to Moroccan Jewish music, to Sephardic music, right up to Klezmer (Jewish jazz) and Tin Pan Alley." Mr Knapp says that most Jewish music is a hybrid of styles. The trend started with the Hasidim, an 18th century sect of eastern European Jews. "If they heard popular tunes in the street, they would take them into the Hasidic canon. You add a Hebrew text, you sing it in a Jewish way and it becomes Hasidic."

This tradition continued in New York in the 1920s where eastern European Jewish folk dance music met black jazz. The result was Klezmer, variously described as Jewish jazz, Jewish party music and even Jewish soul music. One New York band, the Klezmatics, has called its latest album, "Rhythm and Jews".

Hasidic pop is the latest example of this sort of evolution. Mr Knapp describes it as "the music of the Hasidim which integrates with

Rhythm and Jews

Hasidic pop is the latest hybrid of Jewish music

Israeli music which integrates with American jazz and pop.

The style emerged in the States with the father of Hasidic pop, Shlomo Carlebach. "He used to do, in a more modern way, what the Hasidic masters would do hundreds of years ago," says Daniel Tunkel, a director of the London Jewish Music Centre. "He would sit down and tell a story, draw you all in, make you feel mystified and want to listen to more and then sing a song. And because we were getting into the age of the Beatles, he would sing the guitar."

This light, undemanding Hasidic pop is extremely popular. Last summer, when Mordechai Ben David, the Michael Jackson of Hasidic pop, gave a charity concert

at the Wembley Conference Centre, it was a sell out.

Mrs Auerbach says that most Hasidic pop retains its religious purpose and this determines its success. "They are singing in a more jazzed up rock way but they are still using biblical texts. All those kids in Golders Green are learning biblical aphorisms through music they respond to."

This means that on the whole, orthodox Jews approve of Hasidic pop. Nevertheless, male Hasidim are forbidden to listen to a woman singing. At the Wembley concert, the sexes sat apart. Dr Tali Loeventhal, head of sixth-form studies at Lubovitch House, a Hasidic girls' school in Stamford Hill, north London, says: "The people who create it do so with the idea that through this music, which uses modes that are familiar to the world of normal pop, they can introduce Jewish ideas and ideals to people who otherwise would not be open to them."

Naomi Hager, aged 17, a pupil of the school, says: "I think that Shlock Rock and Mordechai Ben David appeal to different ends of the market. Most of my friends would not be interested in Country Yossi or Shlock Rock; they might like the tunes but they do not know the pop music behind them."

The exposure of traditional Jewish music to the outside world is, at least in Jewish terms, relatively recent. For Mrs Auerbach, the development of Jewish music parallels Jewish life. If it takes on too much of the local culture, it ceases to be Jewish. "This is the whole of Judaism. Will assimilation mean there will be no more Jews?"

Mr Knapp says: "Just as I can respond to Paur's Requiem and an Indian raga, I feel that Jewish music can speak to anyone who has ears to listen."

JAMES LANDALE

The B'nai Brith Jewish Music Festival will be held in London from June 21 to July 16 (081-907 1905 for details). You can find out more about Klezmer on BBC's *Rhythms of the World*, June 20

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Return to two wheels

As soon as I looked at the gleaming monster standing in front of me, reality overwhelmed fantasy. The last time I sat astride a motor cycle, they had kickstarts and bulbous headlamps.

I am one of the generation hankering for a return to carefree travel: the thirtysomethings bored with sitting hour after hour in traffic jams in our dull, jelly-mould, four-seater saloons. We want freedom and fun; and it passes us by in the form of sleek motor cycles.

So that was it. Forget the car and

Kevin Eason feels the urge to roar off in search of his lost youth on a motor cycle

go back to two wheels. I thought. It was a good idea at the time, but the moment I confronted my first motor cycle for 15 years, the enthusiasm wore off fast.

Excitement was suddenly something I was not seeking in my rush to join the ranks of the "born-again bikers", as the trade calls the returners to two wheels. Yet I was proposing to sit astride a four-

cylinder bike capable of firing me from standstill to 60mph in less than five seconds — with about the same accelerative power as Ferrari.

John Webb thought it was a daft idea, too. He was too polite to put it that way, but as a veteran instructor with the British Motorcycling Federation (BMF) he had seen enough bikers wobble off into the sunset to know that training is vital.

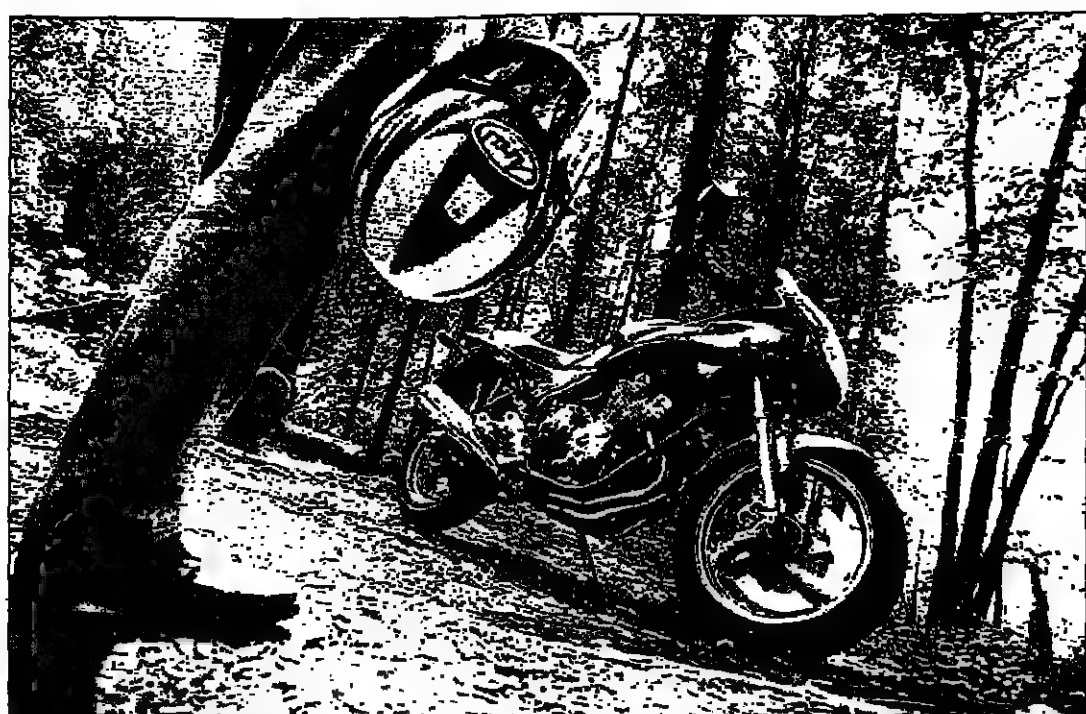
"A lot of people remember what it was like when they were teenagers and think they can just get back on a bike without any problems," he said. "Bikes are very different animals now and motorists are probably unaware of their power and abilities and the roadcraft needed."

Motorcyclists face much more rigorous testing than car drivers as a result of the government crackdown to reduce horrendous accident figures among motorcyclists. Novice riders are restricted to motor cycles of 125cc until they pass their test and the route to the examination can be a tough one, requiring a course called compulsory basic training.

There are a number of local authority schemes, schools run by organisations such as the BMF or private schools. The cost varies but about £100 of lessons should get an average rider to the test. The examiner trails the rider on another motor cycle or in a car issuing instructions through mobile radio.

For those who think they can power around on still relatively high-powered 125cc machines without sitting the examination, provisional licences expire if no test is taken within two years.

The schooling and the testing require discipline, skill and patience but have been worth it. The result of the new rules was a 22 per cent decrease in accidents last year



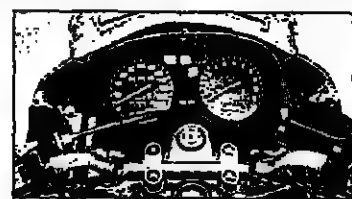
Call of the wild: the Yamaha Diversion XJ600S is a throwback to old motorcycling values

Classic tourer for riding in comfort

MOTORCYCLES now are capable of acceleration and top speeds comparable with most supercars. Yet they are practical transport for commuters who decide that two wheels are an easier way to get around cities or for car drivers who just want a fun weekend vehicle. But what to buy?

Training schools offer machines for hire so that would-be bikers can get a feel for two-wheeled travel. Then the field of choice is endless from sports bikes to grand tourers, trail bikes, commuter scooters and reproduction classics.

I chose a new middleweight tourer from Yamaha on which to make my return. The Yamaha Diversion is a throwback to old



Rider's view: the XJ600S

motorcycling values. Unlike sports bikes, which require the rider to lie almost flat along the petrol tank, the Diversion is a classic tourer built for comfortable, long-distance driving. Four-cylinders are slung angled slightly forward and in parallel form across the frame, helping to give the bike easy

balance, important for riders who are vertically challenged (I am just five feet six inches) and might have difficulty holding up the bike at junctions.

Just over 60 brake horse power from the 600cc engine comes smoothly and allows plenty of acceleration to steer clear of trouble and enough cruising power to stay with traffic out on the motorway. The looks are also those of a classic tourer, a title the bike lives up to over long distances.

Yamaha Diversion XJ600S: Price, £3,500; Engine, four-cylinder, 600cc air-cooled, with electronic ignition plus six-speed transmission. Dry weight of bike 182 kilos. Performance, no published data but 0-60mph about 4.5 seconds, top speed 130mph.

over 1990 and the industry has already reached the target for reducing accidents set by government for the year 2000. Accidents are rarely caused by simply falling off, but more often by car and lorry drivers who fail to understand the vulnerability of a motorcyclist.

My first 20 minutes back on a motor cycle registered such a heightened sense of my own mortality. I was watching every vehicle around me like a hawk. Mr Webb says that is good because bikers have to be mind-readers, anticipat-

ing the moves of other road users and reading the road ahead. His personal tuition was invaluable for building confidence and skill and for overcoming initial nerves.

A few days later, I was an enthusiast again. But there was one other curious phenomenon: I realised I was riding much more slowly and carefully than I do as a car driver. Mr Webb's training plus that heightened sense of mortality was making me a better road user.

Most county road safety officers have details of local training schools for

novices and there are a number of private schools, such as CSM which has 32 centres and can offer a pass within five days at between £120 and £400, depending on skill levels.

Riders can also start with the BMF training scheme. PO Box 2, Uckfield, East Sussex TN22 3ND.

For born-again bikers already holding full licences, advanced training is on offer from the BMF or the Institute of Advanced Motorcyclists, which uses mainly police riders and offer a test costing £23 (plus £10 IAM membership). Details from IAM House, 359 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4HS.

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AC slays giant Ford

How a tiny company broke free to make a new car. By Kevin Eason

In the big, bad world of the motor industry Jack rarely gets to beat the giant American giants of the motor industry spent most of the 1980s gobbling up small fry one after another, adding some of the nation's most famous names to their corporate portfolios.

Lotus fell to General Motors and Ford gathered up Jaguar and Aston Martin Lagonda, and a small company on the fringes of the motoring world but with the potential for enormous success.

This was AC Cars, a small sports car maker almost a century old. In 1987 Ford took a 50.9 per cent stake in the company. The deal seemed to create a perfect match, giving Ford a tiny subsidiary with a historic name in which it could build desirable sports cars from Ford components.

Within two years, however, the deal had gone hopelessly wrong. The corporate men in grey suits could not understand the way a tiny company works or why Brian Angliss, the managing director, wanted to make on-the-spot decisions without consulting ranks of management.

What was Ford's answer? The men in suits spent two years trying to close down AC. The giant was expected to lift its mighty boot and squash the tiny business flat.

However, AC had a Jack who turned out to be a giant-killer. Brian Angliss mounted pugnacious resistance to all attempts to put AC out of business and last week won his two-year legal battle. Ford executives changed their collective minds and allowed Mr Angliss to buy out their share.

This was a victory not only for Mr Angliss but also for common sense because AC has a secret tucked away that will surprise the motoring world later this year. The company will introduce a new sports car.

Mr Angliss and his team worked at a new model even



THIS is the car that Ford should have gone ahead and made. The AC Ace, above with its creator, has stunning good looks but is a practical sports tourer. The all-aluminium body, styled by International Automotive Design, of Worthing, West Sussex, has long, luscious curves that make the car look as though it should cost a fortune. However, it will not be too expensive. Mr Angliss promises.

Mr Angliss is aiming for a pre-tax price of about £40,000, which makes the Ace a future competitor for Jaguar's XJS and the more expensive Mercedes SL.

Power in the prototype comes from the

Yamaha-designed V6 3-litre used by Ford in America but hopes are high that the British Cosworth-designed V6 3-litre will be chosen.

The engine is positioned under the bonnet to give a 53-47 per cent front-to-rear weight distribution, which should give handling characteristics close to those of a mid-engined car. Linked through four-wheel-drive, power steering and five-speed Ford transmission, the Ace should offer muscle car performance to the driver in a spacious, leather-clad cabin.

The details of interior quality and cabin finish, often a weakness in low-volume hand-made cars, are superb.

though they did not know whether they would be in business to make it. The result of their confidence that they would still be around is a stunning new car, all British in design and glamorous enough to raise eyebrows the world over. The new Ace will also revive the AC badge, one of the most celebrated in the history of British motoring.

The business started in 1900 when John Weller saw his friend John Portwine trundling past with a load of groceries on his bone-shaking bicycle. Mr Weller decided to ease his friend's ride and motorised the cycle, creating the Auto Carrier, or AC.

The 1920s were AC's golden age as one of Britain's biggest manufacturers. The cars regularly broke speed records at the Brooklands racing bowl in Surrey.

In 1961, Carroll Shelby, a Texan racing driver, turned up at AC with an idea to race the Ace but using a brutal 7-

litre V8 Ford engine from America. That led to the Cobra, which won the Sports Car World Championships in 1965 and made the AC name synonymous with muscle cars.

The Cobra captured Mr Angliss's imagination. Mr Angliss, who was born near the AC factory at Thames Ditton, Surrey, owned the business by 1986, and added it to his own Autokraft company, which was already making the Cobra.

Making a car that was nearly 25-years-old, however, was not enough and Mr Angliss was soon looking to build a new model and revive AC. A partner appeared in the shape of the Ford company.

Ford could give the AC company access to the company's enormous parts bin and engine technology, otherwise too expensive for a small manufacturer to develop.

ROADWISE

Trial for Triumphs

BRITISH Motor Heritage, the rescuer of rusty MGs, is stretching the business further to provide new bodies for the old Triumph TR6 model. The little factory at Faringdon, Oxfordshire, has traced the original tooling and dies for the famous roadsters, and a trial run of 150 bodies for the British market will be produced at £3,166 each. About 91,000 TR6s were made in eight years to 1976 when the model was supplanted by the TR7, a car whose unreliability became almost a legend in the industry. Yet the TR6 has a 0 to 60mph time of eight seconds and a top speed of 120mph. Also available soon: front valances for the Triumph Herald and Vitesse.

Merces recalled
MERCEDES-BENZ is recalling all 190 models made since 1983 for handbrake checks. The company says it wants all owners to get in touch with their dealers as soon as possible for repairs to the grip, which, in some cases could catch the release button and prevent the complete engagement of the brake. Any repairs will be free.

The greenest
BETTER news from Germany comes with the opening of a new £800 million Mercedes plant at Rastatt. The plant will initially make 80 cars daily for the 200E and 300E series, rising to a capacity of 400 a day. Mercedes says the plant is one of the most environmentally friendly in the world. Instead of excavating the site, the builders sank 2,500 pillars into the ground, and there are so many trees that they form a canopy over the car park.

To the rescue
VOLKSWAGEN and Audi cars are to be covered by a rescue-recovery service provided by the RAC from later this month. The service is available for six years on new cars and offers full roadside repairs, rescue and other services similar to the RAC's own top-of-the-range Reflex package. VW-Audi has mailed details of the scheme to 300,000 potential customers.

Dearer Nissans
NISSAN is raising prices by an average of 2 per cent. That puts the base Micra 1.2LX up by £64 to £74,200, while a four-door or five-door Primera

1.6SLX goes up by £146 to £12,435. Nissan adds, however, that the price of cars ordered for June delivery is unchanged. Seat, the Spanish manufacturer, is raising prices to compensate for the full introduction of catalytic converters. The company will be producing only "clean" cars for the UK from this month. The range is from the £4,595 Marbella micro-car to the Toledo GTI 16v at £15,595.

Jaguar treat
AT LAST enjoying a revival in its fortunes, Jaguar is to be the featured marque at this year's Monterey Historic Automobile Races in America. The country's rich and famous will gather for the event in August on the Californian Laguna Seca racetrack and will be treated to a vast collection of Jaguars. The cars will include a Jaguar XJ-13, a one-off model that was designed to race at Le Mans but did not appear because of changes in competition rules.

Definite delays?
A MOTORIST on the M25 this week reports wearily that there are helpful signs warning drivers of "possible delays"



because of roadworks. Surely, he says, the transport department should drop the pretence and just come straight out with it: delays on the M25 are certain, not possible.

Romance run
THE NAMES conjure up the romance of the day: Suzi, Alvis, Gladiator, Berlitz, Overland, Brewster, De Dion Bouton and Invicta. If the names spark memories or enthusiasms, go and see the Bristol to Bournemouth vintage vehicle run on June 14. More than 520 pre-1940 cars will be flagged away at 9am from the Ashdon Court Estate in Bristol, going on to Wells (10am), Yeovil (11am) and Blandford Forum (12.45pm). The finish will be on Undercliff Drive, Bournemouth, from 2pm.



Priced out for many: £3,888 insurance for a Cosworth

Car maker cuts the premiums

Ford tries to bring back 'hot hatch' buyers with insurance bargains

THE collapse in the market for GTI-style cars has forced Britain's biggest car maker into some radical action to rescue its customers from enormous insurance premiums. Kevin Eason writes.

Ever since the insurance companies pushed up premiums for small, high-performance cars by up to 80 per cent, the models that were the fashion rage of the last decade have lost their popularity.

Most drivers cannot afford the insurance. Premiums can easily top £1,000 for motorists aged under 30, particularly if they live in a city where car crime is rampant.

The Ford company is therefore offering its own insurance scheme, which could cut premiums by as much as 30 per cent to encourage a few customers back into its high-performance hatchbacks.

Without help, it seems that drivers were prepared to drop fashion in favour of avoiding the strain on their wallets.

A survey by *Autocar & Motor* this week underlines just how savage the premiums can be. The magazine asked Quoted Insurance Services, of Worthing, West Sussex, to find quotes for a typical 24-year-old commercial manager living in or near Reading, Berkshire, and having maximum no-claims discount and a clean licence. The cheapest quotes for an Escort XR3i were £994 and for its rival Vauxhall Astra GSi £1,315.

The bill was even bigger for Ford's two prestige high-performance models. The cheap-

est insurance quoted for the new Escort RS2000 was £1,620 and for the Sierra Cosworth £3,888, which is a fifth of the buying price of the £20,000 car.

It is no wonder that Ian McAllister, Ford's chairman, and his sales team put their heads together to find an answer. They studied schemes similar to Peugeot's one-off £500 payment towards insurance for its 205 GTi, but decided that the crucial area was repeat business.

Mr McAllister says: "A one-off payment is fine in the first year but when drivers come to re-insure, they discover they have to find the money for a big premium. By offering our own insurance, we will try to ease that strain in the following years."

The evidence has been growing that the collapse in the market started at the bottom. Young drivers in second-hand cars were virtually dumping GTIs because they could not afford the insurance.

That killed off the resale market and led to a blocked pipeline of "hot hatches" with nowhere to go. Sales in the small car segment, which features the Fiesta XR2i, are down by 60 per cent this year, and sales in the segment featuring the Escort XR3i are a third lower.

High-performance cars are a crucial area for Ford as they yield profits much needed at a time when the total market is bumping along the bottom of recession.

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THE LION GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Private pupil has no public rights

Regina v Headmaster of Fernhill Manor School and Another, Ex parte Brown
Before Mr Justice Brooke
[Judgment May 22]

A pupil at an independent school did not have a right at public law to challenge his or her expulsion from the school, the only remedy available was a writ action in private law by the pupil's parents for a declaration that their rights had been infringed by the manner of the school's treatment of their child.

Mr Justice Brooke so held in the Queen's Bench Division dismissing the application for judicial review of Angela Samantha Brown, by her mother and next friend, Penelope Jane Brown, for, *inter alia*, certiorari to quash the decisions of the headmaster of Fernhill Manor School, New Milton, Hampshire, on September 27, 1991, and endorsed by the school's board of governors on October 10, to expel the applicant and for a declaration that the decisions were unreasonable and invalid.

Mr Michael Kolanko for the applicant; Mr George Leggatt for the school.

MR JUSTICE BROOKE said that the school was an independent girls' school owned by a limited company. The applicant joined the school in the summer of 1987 aged eleven and a half.

In summary, complaint was made that the applicant's parents received a letter from the headmaster indicating that she had been expelled for alleged bullying and intimidatory behaviour without their or the applicant being informed of the allegations prior to the decision to expel; nor had they been given an opportunity to respond to those allegations or attend before the headmaster and the board of governors.

The school's brochure provided the terms of contract, one of which provided: "The heads reserve the right of requiring the removal of any pupil whose influence is found to be detrimental to her companions or whose conduct and application to work is unsatisfactory."

Mr Kolanko contended, *inter alia*, that natural justice demanded that a pupil was entitled to know the charges against him or her if threatened with expulsion and to make representations; see, for example, *R v Board of Governors of London Oratory School, Ex parte R* (The Times February 17, 1988).

His Lordship said that the distinction between matters of public law and matters of private law was referred to by the Court of Appeal in *Lane v National Greyhound Racing Club Ltd* (1983) 1 WLR 1302, 1307, 1312. The principles were so well known that

they did not need to be set out.

Mr Kolanko said that the present case came within the public law sphere: provisions in Part III of the Education Act 1944, as amended, which brought independent schools into a statutory framework and made them subject to the statutory supervision of the Secretary of State for Education and Science, provided the statutory underpinning of the relationship between such schools and their pupils and he relied on *Leach v Deputy Governor of Parkhurst Prison* (1988) AC 533, 561E, per Lord Bridge of Harwich.

Furthermore, there was no private law remedy available directly to a girl aged 16 so that if the application for judicial review was refused the applicant was left without any remedy at all in law either in public law or in private law.

Mr Leggatt drew attention to two cases, *R v East Berkshire Health Authority, Ex parte Walsh* (1985) QB 152, 161, 164 and *R v Derbyshire County Council, Ex parte Noble* (1990) 1 CR 808, 813-820, which underlined the relevant principles.

He contended that a private school was not a public body. The

relationship between the applicant and the school was solely the private agreement between her parents and the school.

He contended that the rules of natural justice had not been followed in the applicant's case, but his Lordship was satisfied that Mr Leggatt was right that the only remedy available at law was that which was available to the parents in a writ action for a declaration and injunction and not an application for judicial review.

His Lordship said that it was true that private schools operated within a statutory framework of control but the relationship between such schools and those attending them was founded on private contracts between those operating the schools and those paying for their children to attend them.

A pupil at a state school was in a different position and did have the right, in an appropriate case, to enforce the principles of fair play or of action if he or she was expelled in a situation where fair procedures had not been followed.

The law made a clear distinction between public law cases and private law cases and the present case was fairly and squarely within the private sector.

His Lordship reached the conclusion that the application had to be dismissed with considerable reluctance and he hoped that the case would draw the attention of those responsible for the governing of independent schools to the need to have procedural rules designed to ensure that pupils received fair treatment in accordance with the principles of natural justice in the case of an expulsion.

Expulsion from school was and always had been a stigma; it might hamper the education of a child perhaps at a crucial stage and could lead to later difficulties in employment. The relevant principles of fair play had been repeatedly stated by the courts.

At present, if a child was at an independent school the court could offer him or her no remedy. The only remedy was to the parents, if they could afford it, to seek a declaration in private law that their rights had been infringed because of the way the school had treated their child.

The child itself had no remedy unless Parliament was willing to give him or her one.

Solicitors: Aldridge & Brownlee, Christchurch; Derek T. Wilkinson & Co, Bournemouth.

In re H (a Minor)
Before Mr Justice Thorpe
[Judgment May 22]

Some children aged 15, although emotionally disturbed, could have sufficient understanding to instruct solicitors representing their interests and, in such cases, the guardian *ad litem* might seek to be separately represented.

Where it became apparent in family proceedings that a case was more complex than it had originally appeared, it was essential that action was taken swiftly to transfer it to the appropriate level of court within the three-tier system.

Mr Justice Thorpe so held in the Family Division dismissing an appeal against the order of Bodey Family Proceedings Court committing H, a child, to the care of the local authority.

Mrs Rozanna Malcolm for the minor; Ms Marjorie Cudby for the mother; Mrs Jayne Gilbert for the guardian *ad litem*; Mr Roger McCarthy for the local authority.

MR JUSTICE THORPE said that it was vital for the success of the family justice system that had been introduced to accompany the Children Act 1989 that the allocation of cases to the appropriate level of court within the three-tier system operated effectively.

Obviously, the vast majority of cases would conclude in the family proceedings courts where they originated. But the successful administration of the system depended on the small percentage of cases which merited transfer finding that transfer at the appropriate stage.

It might be that a particular case might not manifest any of the criteria in the allocation order initially but if any of those factors subsequently developed it was important that there should be swift and appropriate action.

By contrast, cases which seemed to bristle with complexity at the outset might simplify as they progressed and equally there should be an appropriate reaction to that reduction.

It had been manifest from the outset of the instant case that it was one of those acutely difficult family cases where an able, intelligent adolescent was demonstrating the capacity to blight his prospects of achievement as a consequence of grossly disturbed behaviour.

It was a case of one which was more appropriately dealt with by a judge of the Family Division who would have the support of the services of the Official Solicitor who would be representing the child or, if impracticable because of a divergence between the views of the Official Solicitor and the wishes of the child, as *amicus curiae*.

Mrs Malcolm's principal complaint on behalf of H was that his

solicitor had wrongly advocated the case on the instructions of the guardian *ad litem* and not on H's instructions or, alternatively, that he had wrongfully endeavoured to advance simultaneously, or consecutively, the fundamentally conflicting instructions of each of them.

A subsidiary argument was that the guardian *ad litem* had failed to alert the court to the gulf that had developed between her views and those of H.

The determination of the question of whether H had been properly represented by within rules 11 and 12 of the Family Proceedings Courts (Children Act 1989) Rules (1991) SI No 1395 (L17).

Mrs Malcolm said that there was an important distinction between the question posed by rule 12(1)(a) and the question the justices had earlier considered under section 38(6) of the 1989 Act. The level of understanding that enabled a child to make an informed decision whether to submit to psychological assessment was in all practical effects a much higher level than to enable him to give instructions to a solicitor on his own behalf. His Lordship agreed with that submission.

Plainly, said Mrs Malcolm, the solicitor, had he given proper

weight to rule 12(1)(a), would have taken instructions exclusively from H, perceiving, whatever his emotional disturbance, that he clearly had the ability and determination to convey his wishes. The guardian *ad litem* would have reported that to the court under rule 11(3) and might have had separate representation.

His Lordship had reached the conclusion that Mrs Malcolm was technically right in her submission. However, it put the case a bit high to suggest that any child of 15 years had sufficient understanding to instruct a solicitor.

His Lordship did not agree that where a child was only suffering from emotional disturbance he would always have the ability to instruct a solicitor. A child had to have sufficient understanding within rationality to instruct a solicitor. It might be that the level of emotional disturbance would be sufficient to remove the level of understanding required for rational instruction.

The solicitor had fallen into error in difficult circumstances. The impossibility of presenting two such fundamentally inconsistent cases had been well illustrated.

It seemed to his Lordship that in cases involving intelligent, articulate but disturbed children it was

necessary for the court to apply rules 11 and 12 realistically to ensure that not only was the professional voice of the guardian *ad litem* heard but that also the wishes and feelings of the child, however limited the horizon, were similarly presented.

If there was any real question as to whether the child's emotional disturbance was so intense that he could not give instructions, that question should be the subject of specific expert opinion from experts already involved in the case.

Mrs Malcolm said that the case involved so fundamental a feature of the child's rights that the justices' order could not stand.

While his Lordship accepted the forensic force of that submission he had to exercise a discretion. In view of the unanimity of professional opinion that H was in the process of destroying his educational prospects as a direct consequence of his grossly disturbed state it seemed inconceivable that the justices would have been deflected from the course that they took, however persuasively H's disturbed and distorted views had been presented.

Solicitors: S. J. Oliver & Co, Lee; Howard Scott, Bexleyheath; Bells, Kingston upon Thames; Mr L. J. Birch, Bexleyheath.

Effect of alcohol on defence of diminished responsibility

Regina v Egan
Before Lord Justice Watkins,
Mr Justice Macpherson of Cluny and
Mr Justice Judge
[Judgment May 13]

Where the effect of alcohol had to be considered in relation to a defence of diminished responsibility under the Homicide Act 1957, the jury should be directed in line with *R v Gittens* (1984) QB 698 and *R v Atkinson* (1985) 1 Crim LR 314, the high authority on the point.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so stated in dismissing an appeal by Shaun Daniel Egan against his conviction on December 15, 1989, at Cardiff Crown Court (Mr Justice French and a jury of murder).

Mr Christopher Pitchford, QC and Mr James Tillyard, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr John Griffith Williams, QC, and Mr Richard Twomlow for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant, whose mentality was on the border of the abnormal, had, when under the influence of alcohol, forcibly and unlawfully entered the bungalow of an elderly widow, severely assaulted and killed her.

His plea of guilty to manslaughter on the basis of diminished responsibility was not accepted by the Crown and he was eventually convicted of murder and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Counsel for the defence argued that the judge's summing up contained flawed directions on the effect of alcohol in relation to diminished responsibility.

He submitted that the approval of the Court of Appeal in *R v Atkinson* of the commentary of Professor J. C. Smith upon *Gittens* (1984) 1 Crim LR 554 was not only *obiter* but misguided in that Professor Smith's suggested questions for the jury: "Have the defence satisfied you on the balance of probabilities, that if the defendant had not taken drink, (i) he would have killed as he in fact did, and (ii) he would have been under diminished responsibility when he did so?" were irreconcilable with the ratio of *Gittens* itself, which was that the issue for the jury was not one of choice between causes or substantial causes of the killing but whether abnormality of mind arising from admissible causes substantially impaired the defendant's mental responsibility within the meaning of "substantial" set out in *R v Vint* (1967) 1

QB 175.

That submission was misconceived. Far from being *obiter*, the approval by the court of those questions was central to the decision in *Atkinson* and they were most appropriate and ought to be applied generally.

In their Lordships' opinion, the judgments in *Gittens* and *Atkinson* should be regarded together as representing the high authority on that troublesome subject of diminished responsibility where drink was a factor, and added to that had to be the judgment in *R v Vint* (1967) 1 WLR 350 where it was maintained that alcoholism alone could establish that defence.

Finally, for the avoidance of doubt, guidance as to the meaning of "substantial" should be explicitly provided for the jury by using one or other of the two meanings in *R v Vint*:

1 The jury should approach the word in a broad commonsense way or
2 The word meant "more than some trivial degree of impairment which does not make an appreciable difference to a person's ability to control himself, but it means less than total impairment".

Solicitors: CPS, South Wales and Gwent.

Capability of minor to instruct

Custodial sentence justified for credit card thefts

Regina v Bumrungruak
Before Lord Taylor of Gossforth,
Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice
Macpherson of Cluny and Mr
Justice Turner
[Judgment June 21]

When a young offender was sentenced to nine months detention in a young offender institution for theft of a credit card, the sentencing judge could not be criticised for concluding that the offender's intention at the time of the theft was to use the card to obtain credit and that the offence was so serious that a non-custodial sentence could not be justified within section 14A(4) of the Criminal Justice Act 1982, as amended by section 123(3) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988.

An appeal by Kiatpana Bumrungruak, aged 19, against five concurrent sentences of nine months detention in a young offender institution for five offences of theft of credit cards and concurrent with five three-month sentences for specimen counts of obtaining credit by deception, imposed by Judge Nicholl at Coventry Crown Court on pleas of guilty with 159 other offences taken into consideration, was dismissed.

Each individual offence had to be looked at and it was wrong to look at what followed afterwards and to reflect back on the original offence simply because of what occurred later.

Section 1 of the 1982 Act, as amended, provides: "(4) A court may not ... pass a sentence of detention in a young offender institution ... unless it is satisfied (i) that the circumstances, including the nature and gravity of the offence, are such that if the offender were aged 21 or over the court would pass a sentence of imprisonment; and (ii) that he qualifies for a custodial sentence."

"(4A) An offender qualifies for a custodial sentence if ... (c) the offence of which he has been convicted ... was so serious that a non-custodial sentence for it cannot be justified."

Mr Rex Todd for the appellant.

MR JUSTICE MACPHERSON, giving the judgment of the court, said that the money involved was £11,000 and it had been repaid by the appellant's parents.

The court in sentencing in such cases always had to be alert not to lump together with the individual offences what followed from them. That was a wrong approach.

Sometimes judges and the public might be surprised that that was the position but the statute required that to be done.

In the instant case, however, it was vital to realise that, when the credit card was stolen the appellant intended to use it in order to obtain goods in the future.

The judge was entitled to look at the circumstances of each individual theft. He decided that they were mean and unpleasant. He decided in each case that it was established the intention of the appellant when he stole the card was to use it for some other purpose but in order to obtain credit.

In their Lordships' judgment, he was entitled to take that view and to conclude that, in all the circumstances, the theft of the credit cards to be used was a serious matter. He asked himself the correct questions and was referred and referred himself to the relevant provisions.

There was no error of principle in the case and the sentence was not manifestly excessive. Each individual theft was in itself serious.

Solicitors: Mathers & Co, Coventry.



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TASC - Teaching as a Career
Tax Inspectorate
Tesco Stores Ltd
The Times Educational Supplement
Thames Polytechnic

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The Ethical Register
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9.05 Perfect Strangers. American comedy series (6665582)
9.30 Between Ourselves. A life in ruins. Film about Roger Cappa, who restores old buildings in Wales (58747)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (6413143) 10.05 Playdays (s) (464476) 10.25 Stoppit and Tidyp. Cartoon (s) (6416230)
10.35 Tom and Jerry Double Bill (7852259) 10.50 News, regional news and weather (1942227)
10.55 Cricket: First Test — England v Pakistan. Live coverage of the second day's play from Edgbaston (s) (88235747). Including at 12.00 News, regional news and weather 12.55 Regional news and weather (60228056) 1.00 One O'Clock News. (Cee-fax) Weather (12018)
1.30 Neighbours. (Cee-fax) (s) (59091679)
1.50 Cricket: First Test — England v Pakistan. Further coverage from Edgbaston (s) (68344582)
2.20 Film: Flame in the Streets (1961). Dated race drama starring John Mills as a liberal-minded union supporter who is taken back when his free-spirited daughter Sylvia Symms announces her marriage to a black teacher. Directed by Roy Baker (934292)
3.50 Children's BBC: A Bear Behind (s) (2687747) 4.05 Fantastic Max (s) (6922050) 4.15 The New Lassie (s) (2159440) 4.35 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles. Cartoon (s) (Cee-fax) (4797765) 5.00 Newsround (5195563) 5.10 Troublemakers. First of a six-part drama series (s) (Cee-fax) (7931766)
5.35 Neighbours (s) (Cee-fax) (s) (146563). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. (Cee-fax) Weather (766)
6.30 Regional news magazines (178). Northern Ireland: Neighbours (s) (Cee-fax)
7.00 Wogan. Terry visits Dolly Parton in Nashville, Tennessee (s) (4211)
7.30 Tales of Gold. The final programme in the series about Britain's Olympic champions. The boxer Chris Finnegan recalls his professional career following his 1958 triumph in Mexico, and there is a portrait of David Burghley, a fair demolition job, making up in energy and weight of gags what it lacked in subtlety or wit. The ingredients are a crew and passenger list representing every cliché in the book and a plot in which a mass food poisoning forces an unlikely hero to take over the controls. The work of Jim Abrahams, David Zucker and Jerry Zucker, the writing and directing team responsible for *Kentucky Fried Movie*, the film was notable for using normally straight actors in comic roles. Among them were Lloyd Bridges, Robert Stack and Leslie Nielsen. For Nielsen this was the beginning of an unexpected stardom which he has sustained in the *Naked Gun* series. (Cee-fax) (5211308). Northern Ireland: Stanley Woods — The Movie (489940) 10.20 Film: A Man Called Horse (379360)
10.55 Film: A Man Called Horse (1970). Graphic western starring Richard Harris as an English aristocrat who is captured by the Sioux Indians. With Judith Anderson. Directed by Elliot Silverstein (41287124). Northern Ireland: 12.10am-1.45 Film: Drop Dead Darling (534167) 12.45am Weather (1684099)



Neighbourhood concerns: Robson, Joseph and Quirkie (8.00pm)

BBC2

6.45-7.10 Open University: Art — The Great Exhibition (9540037)
8.00 Breakfast News (1756582)
8.15 Westminster (6078018)
8.30 Newsround. How to care for swords (s) (Cee-fax) (1981766)
9.05 Daytime on 2: Tomorrow — The World. (Cee-fax) (2270414) 9.15 Teaching Today (101358) 9.45 Watch (s) (7100150) 10.00 Square One (s) (4642747) 10.20 Save a Life (s) (Cee-fax) (6415501) 10.30 Into Print (33940) 11.00 Movable Feasts (s) (4227766) 11.15 Lemniscate (1412389). Northern Ireland: Ulster in Focus 11.30 Japanese Language and People (3327). Northern Ireland: 11.35 The Winding Banks of Erne (s) (12.00 English Film (s) (24292) 12.30 Scene (s) (50105) 1.30 Science Topics (64329105) 1.20 Brum (s) (82114030) 1.30 The Adventures of Spot (s) (62528455) 1.35 Crystal Tapes (s) (607166) 1.40 Zog Zog (s) (59005501)
2.00 News and weather (50730114) followed by Words and Pictures (s) (2678078)
2.15 Weekend Outlook: Open University preview (s) (3180835)
2.20 Cricket: First Test — England v Pakistan. Tony Lewis introduces live coverage of the second day's play from Edgbaston (s) (87984211). Including at 3.00 News and weather, and at 3.50 News and weather. Regional news and weather
6.35 Gymnastics. Highlights of the Daily Mirror/Sunday Mirror Champions All contest from the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham (s) (374501)
7.25 Spain on a Plate: Castile. The penultimate leg of the gastronomic tour. Maria José Sevilla samples sucking pig, roast lamb and Manchego cheese. (Cee-fax) (959785)
7.55 Dance House. Gary Lambert performs a solo dance, which reflects on life in a big city, accompanied by the music of John Marc Gowers (s) (590327)
8.00 Public Eye: Testing, Testing. Peter Taylor reports on the proposal to reintroduce selection tests for 11 year olds by schools that have opted out of local authority control (1501)
8.30 Gardeners' World. Liz Rigby continues her search for the lost Gertrude Jekyll garden in south London (7508)
9.00 Rory Bremner. More barbs from our finest impressionist (s) (2834)
9.30 Words on Film: Devices of Deception
● CHOICE: In the first of six personal documentaries presented in verse, Damian Gorman reflects on the recent history of his native Northern Ireland. His concern is that ordinary, decent people (in which he includes himself) are responding to the violence by rejecting themselves from it. Accompanied by news clips documenting more than 20 years of explosions, shootings and funerals, Gorman's argument is that popular resilience has been built upon the exclusion of the other person's sorrow. He contends that language itself has failed, using the umbrella word "troubles" to tie up the situation and tame it. Gorman offers no alternative but he is a poet and not a politician. His contribution is to evoke mood and feeling, in the fresh, evocative, giving of the words of "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling". (Cee-fax) (s) (70969)



A comic stance on current affairs: Griff Rhys Jones (10.00pm)

10.00 Have I Got News For You? Angus Deayton hosts the satirical news quiz. Griff Rhys Jones and Anne Robinson join regular team captains Ian Hislop and Paul Merton (25921)
10.30 Newsnight with Sue Cameron and Francine Stock (676834)
11.15 What the Papers Say. Russell Davies, sports columnist on the Sunday Telegraph, reviews the week's press (884501). Wales: Wales in Westminster
11.30 Scrutiny. News from Parliament (94124). Wales: 11.45 What the Papers Say 12.00 Weather (5322902)
12.05am Cricket: First Test — England v Pakistan. Highlights of the second day's play (3460896)
12.35 Film: A Man of Principle (1984). The *Discovering Latin America* season continues with a violent political thriller from Colombia in which Frank Ramirez plays the leader of revolutionary terrorists. In Spanish with English subtitles. Directed by Francisco Rodriguez (1029964). Ends at 2.05

10.15 The Tender Trap (1955). Frank Sinatra plays the bachelor (81230)
12.15am The Party (1968). Peter Sellers as an Indian doctor in Hollywood (160872)
2.15 Columbia: Best in Peace Mrs Williams (1959). A comedy about a woman who is kidnapped by a man who is a doctor (157308)
4.15 B.L. Stryker — Die Laughing (1969). Trying to protect a comedian (404563)
8.15 Flashback (1990). Peter Sutcliffe as a young FBI agent (321723)
10.15 The Killing Place (1990). Thriller of a psycho-augmented soldier (50582)
11.45 The Trial of the Peter Fonda as the leader of a biker gang (35037)
11.55am A Dry White Season (1989). Anti-apartheid drama set in South Africa (164512)
12.05am The Party (1968). Peter Sellers as an Indian doctor in Hollywood (160872). Ends at 4.35

THE COMEDY CHANNEL
● Via the Astra satellite.
4.00pm Mip (3650) 4.30 Pulp Fiction (1989) 5.00 Green Acres (1931) 5.30 The New Love to Love (3414) 6.00 The Belvedere (2607) 6.30 The Company (1979) 7.00 The Troop (1975) 7.30 The Company (1979) 8.00 The Troop (1975) 8.30 The Company (1979) 9.00 The Troop (1975) 9.30 The Company (1979) 10.00 The Troop (1975) 10.30 The Company (1979) 11.00 The Troop (1975) 11.30 The Company (1979) 12.00 The Troop (1975) 12.30 The Company (1979) 1.00 The Troop (1975) 1.30 The Company (1979) 2.00 The Troop (1975) 2.30 The Company (1979) 3.00 The Troop (1975) 3.30 The Company (1979) 4.00 The Troop (1975) 4.30 The Company (1979) 5.00 The Troop (1975) 5.30 The Company (1979) 6.00 The Troop (1975) 6.30 The Company (1979) 7.00 The Troop (1975) 7.30 The Company (1979) 8.00 The Troop (1975) 8.30 The Company (1979) 9.00 The Troop (1975) 9.30 The Company (1979) 10.00 The Troop (1975) 10.30 The Company (1979) 11.00 The Troop (1975) 11.30 The Company (1979) 12.00 The Troop (1975) 12.30 The Company (1979) 1.00 The 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